

Don't miss the
Good Food
Guide
in Friday's



THE JERUSALEM POST

Vol. LV, No. 16555 Wednesday, June 24, 1987 • Sivan 27, 5747 • Shaul 28, 1407 NIS 0.80 (Eilat NIS 0.70)



Unfair to car-buyers — Page 8

OC refers to Lavi costs in warning on future needs of sea forces

'No navy by 90s without new boats'

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — There will be no Israel Navy by the 1990s unless it acquires new missile boats and submarines, the force's commander, Aluf Avraham Ben-Shushan, said yesterday.

Ben-Shushan, speaking at a press conference to mark Navy Day, was referring to plans to build four Saar V missile boats and three Dolphin class submarines by 1995. Cancelling the plans will mean "the navy's physical extermination," he told defence reporters here.

His comments were made against the background of claims by the IDF that buying F-16Cs instead of building the Lavi jetfighter will leave money for other vital projects.

Ben-Shushan said he did not expect a decision on the navy's requirements before the end of the debate on the Lavi, but that the navy needs those vessels irrespective of the decision on the Lavi.

The missile boats are to be the navy's major weapons system and will cost \$1.5 billion over the next ten years, while the Lavi will not be a major system and will cost billions of dollars, he said.

The navy last acquired new vessels eight years ago. It has been upgrading the Saar IV missile boats but they will not suffice to meet future challenges, he said.

Israeli and foreign naval experts recently said the future ships must be bigger to include sophisticated weapons systems, and electronic warfare equipment, and the Saar V is to fit into the new category.

It would be wrong to make do with smaller vessels and rely on the air force to protect them, Ben-Shushan maintained. Each ship must be able to defend itself, he stressed.

All the necessary echelons have approved the plans to acquire the vessels but the go-ahead has

yet to be given, he lamented.

Syria, meanwhile, is acquiring new vessels and weapons systems, and terrorist organizations are trying to buy naval craft.

To counter the terrorist threat, the navy has signed a contract to provide new Devora patrol boats to replace the 20-year-old Daburs. The Devora is to be more stable than the Dabur, and will carry several missile systems.

Speaking at the opening of a factory for night-vision military equipment in Sderot yesterday, Defence Minister Rabin declined to comment directly on Ben-Shushan's remarks.

Rabin said, however, that there is no doubt that defence budget cuts in recent years have substantially hurt the defence apparatus.

"This has had the effect of reducing our order of battle for war, of reducing our regular enlisted forces, and, at the same time, of reducing our ability to improve the forces that remain."

UJA warns Shamir on 'Who's a Jew'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Leaders of the United Jewish Appeal yesterday warned Prime Minister Shamir that the "Who is a Jew" issue could weaken American Jewry's solidarity with Israel.

A UJA delegation led by national chairman Martin Stein told the premier that the issue must be resolved by religious leaders of the various denominations, and not by politicians.

Stein said later that he and his colleagues had explicitly pointed up a potential link between fund-raising efforts and the alienation caused by the "Who is a Jew" issue. "This goes right to the kishke," Stein said. "Of the six million American Jews, five million are not Orthodox. This issue calls into question not only the Jewishness of the relatively small number of converts, but the Jewish legitimacy of rabbis, or laymen, or communities."

Stein, who is himself traditional, said there was some encouraging dialogue under way between "modern Orthodox" and non-Orthodox rabbis.

Well-placed sources said this was the first time that the carefully non-political UJA, the main fund-raising organ of American Jewry, had confronted a premier so forthrightly on the "Who is a Jew" issue.

Stein stressed that the UJA's overture was not linked with that of a Reform and Conservative leadership group which also met with Shamir yesterday (report, page four). He said the UJA men had been "non-rhetorical and non-political" but had sought to convey to Shamir the depth of feeling on this issue within U.S. Jewry.

MKs blast pope for audience with Waldheim

By DVORAH GETZLER
and WALTER RUBY

MKs from all parties joined yesterday in condemning the Vatican's invitation to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, for a meeting with the pope tomorrow.

As for the government, beyond asking for an explanation from the Vatican, it has decided on a wait-and-see posture. Minister-without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman (standing in for Foreign Minister Shimon Peres) told the Knesset, in reply to six motions for the agenda on the subject.

At the suggestion of Alignment MK Shevah Weiss, the Knesset decided to send the full protocol of yesterday's session to the Vatican.

Weizman recalled that as defence minister at the time, he had met with Waldheim after the Litani Operation and had written of his impressions of the meeting. "I will not quote what I wrote," he said. "Suffice it to add that, without knowing what we now know, my feelings simply reflected the present state of our knowledge."

Weizman added that he hoped the remarks he was making in the name of the government would not be the end of the matter.

Unlike Weiss, Shulamit Aloni (Citizens Rights Movement), Shimon Ben-Shlomo (Shas), Geula Cohen (Tehiya), Dov Shilansky (Likud), and Avner Shaki (National Religious Party), Weizman had some qualified appreciation for the pope who, he said, had been trying to further the dialogue between the Jewish people and the Catholic Church. The pope, he said, also

respected the memory of the Holocaust.

But for the MKs, the Vatican's attitude to Jews and the Holocaust was proved by the short time that had elapsed between the papal visit to the Majdanek concentration camp and the announcement of the Waldheim visit.

There was a connection between the cross and the swastika, Cohen asserted.

Waldheim was a Nazi, it was unanimously agreed.

In New York, the president of the American Jewish umbrella group responsible for Jewish-Catholic relations said that the National Conference of Catholic Bishops has endorsed calls by American Jews for substantive talks with the pope over his decision to receive Waldheim.

Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, president of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC), said he "welcomes" a statement issued late Monday by Archbishop John May of St. Louis, in which May said that in light of the negative reaction to the Waldheim visit in the Jewish community.

The Austrian government has reacted sharply to criticism by Israel and Jewish groups of Waldheim's meeting with the pontiff.

On Monday, the Israeli charge d'affaires in Vienna, Gideon Yarden, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry to be told that Austria "rejects" Israel's position on Waldheim's audience with the pope.

Foreign Minister Alois Mock has broadly hinted that Austria's ambassador to Israel, Otto Pfeinert, may not be replaced when his posting ends at the end of the year.

Police deny 'political bias' charge by Likud

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
and ASHER WALLFISH
Jerusalem Post Reporters

Angry Police Ministry officials last night brushed aside accusations of political bias levelled against the force by Likud MKs.

"We are used to this. Every time their people are involved in an inquiry they say it," said one source.

The Likud Knesset faction yesterday fired a massive broadside against Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev and the police, accusing them of victimizing Likud politicians, while sparing Alignment politicians, in a process of cynical bias and manipulation.

The faction, stung by the alleged leaks from police sources in the recent investigation of Jackie Levy, son of Housing Minister David Levy, decided to send a delegation to Attorney-General Yosef Harish to urge that he force the police to halt its "one-sided pursuit" of the Likud.

The attack on police was the second in the past 48 hours from Likud sources. On Monday David Levy wrote to the police minister demanding an inquiry into the actions of the national fraud squad which had investigated his son.

Police found no evidence to back accusations that Jackie Levy had received a salary from a local council under false pretences. In his letter, Levy said that the squad's "over-zealousness" cast doubts on their "balanced view of things."

Fuel was probably added to the fire yesterday when it was reported that police investigators suspected Herut MK Micha Reiser of receiving money from financier Michael Albin.

Albin fell to his death from the third-floor offices of the Jaffa fraud squad two years ago. He was being questioned about suspected illegal stock market transactions.

Despite strong denials of bias, both from Bar-Lev and senior police officers, including Inspector General David Kraus, Likud politicians have accused the police of being prejudiced against them several times in the past two years.

In December 1985, Kaufman and Milo charged Bar-Lev with turning the police into a "political weapon" of the Alignment. The two made their attack when police investigating a suspected West Bank land fraud took into custody two aides of then deputy defence minister Michael Dekel.

Accusations that the police were biased in their handling of the case also reportedly came in private conversation from Yitzhak Shamir, who was vice premier at the time.

Yesterday sources at the Police Ministry said that talk of the politicization of the police was "rubbish."

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)



Defence attorneys John Gill, Yoram Sheftel, and Mark O'Connor (left to right) listen yesterday to testimony at the Demjanjuk trial. Story page 2.

Dissent in Demjanjuk team

By ERNIE MEYER

There are rumbles of dissent within the three-member defence team in the Jerusalem trial of the suspected war criminal John Demjanjuk.

There have been clashes between Mark O'Connor and his Israeli co-counsel Yoram Sheftel, with O'Connor angrily telling Sheftel off. Such exchanges have taken place in full view of judges and spectators — if not the TV cameras — although the actual words were not audible. (Trial report, page 2.)

In the last few days John Gill, the team's document expert, has openly spoken to reporters, something he has avoided doing in the past.

"There will have to be changes. John (Demjanjuk) wants us to be equal."

While Sheftel is the relative newcomer to the team, Gill has been associated with O'Connor in the case for several years. The tendency seems to be far more equality on the team, rather than O'Connor's undisputed leadership. "There will be a decision soon," Gill said.

Sheftel has not come out with any statement to the press, although there are rumours concerning criticism he has about the handling of the case.

O'Connor yesterday tried to laugh off the entire matter. "There is no crisis. My absence [for the hearings in Germany prevented me from reviewing all the material regarding new witnesses]," he said.

He also denied that the judges had

been informed about his replacement as the head of the defence team.

"I am more confident than ever. Do I have any doubt about my colleagues? We will all have to be judged by our performance," he said smilingly.

At the end of yesterday's session all three lawyers consulted with Demjanjuk in his cell at Binvenet Ha'uma, before his trip back to the Ramle jail. He reportedly told them to pull together.

The accused's son, John Jr., who attends every court session, told *The Jerusalem Post* that "the matter will be taken care of. The family is one unit and no harm will come to the case."

Arap Moi-Shamir meeting reported Kenya president wants to visit Holy Places

By Jerusalem Post Reporter

President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya wants to visit Israel later this year to make a pilgrimage to the Christian holy places, sources in Jerusalem disclosed yesterday.

At their unpublicized meeting in Nairobi last week, which was subsequently revealed by the Israeli press, Arap Moi told Prime Minister Shamir that some conditions have yet to be fulfilled before Kenya will resume full diplomatic relations with Israel. Talking to reporters during his West African tour, Shamir said that resuming relations with Nigeria and Kenya, "is not far away." He did not specify the basis for his optimism.

Agence France Press reported from Nairobi yesterday that Kenya has denied that the secret meeting took place.

Spokesmen for Shamir and the Foreign Ministry refused yesterday to confirm that the meeting took

place. "It is a speculation made by journalists, like many others that were made during Shamir's visit to Africa," one official said.

It was learned that the meeting was held in the early morning hours of Monday of last week, when Shamir was on his way from Israel to Togo. The Israeli Air Force Boeing 707 landed in Nairobi Airport for refueling. Minutes after the plane landed, Shamir was taken by car to a meeting place in Nairobi.

The meeting was to have been kept secret, and the dozens of people — including a large contingent of journalists — were told that Shamir left the plane just for the airport terminal.

Israel is represented in Nairobi by an "interest officer," Foreign Ministry diplomat Pinhas Gonen, who serves also as permanent representative to the United Nations Environment Programme.

Treasury and Histadrut stand firm in wage war

By JEFF BLACK

For The Jerusalem Post

The battle of nerves between the Treasury and the Histadrut over public-sector wages continues, with neither side declaring any readiness to compromise.

Senior Histadrut trade union department official Meir Gat told *The Jerusalem Post* last night: "I can't see the point of the Treasury turning up at tomorrow's round of talks if they don't have any new proposals."

The Treasury however said the negotiations will take place as planned. Treasury officials said the threat of a public-sector strike, made by the trade unions on Monday, will not affect its negotiating position.

The officials added that the Histadrut issued similar threats 10 days ago after talks between Finance Minister Nissim and Histadrut secretary-general Kessar failed to break the impasse in negotiations.

The Treasury also dampened rumours that it will make concessions to the Histadrut on pensions of former government workers. Officials said this issue needs to be examined, and the Treasury has made no commitment to the Histadrut.

The key demand of the trade unions is for a general wage increase for public-sector workers and a reduction in the 45 hour work week.

Kessar, however, declined yesterday to be drawn into details over the wage demand. Speaking on Israel Radio, he said the proper place to discuss these things is in negotiations with the Treasury and not in the media.

Gat said that wages in the public sector rose by 12 per cent last year, according to Treasury figures, and yet this has not led to inflation.

According to both Gat and Kessar the unions do not want to take industrial action, but will have no alternative if the Treasury does not compromise.

(See Minimum Wage, page 4)

Conditions for Soviet participation discussed

Peres says Thatcher backs peace plan

By DAVID HOROVITZ

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. — The time has come for the Soviet Union to clarify what sort of Middle East peace conference it is seeking, Foreign Minister Peres said yesterday, speaking to reporters after nearly a two-hour meeting with Premier Thatcher.

Thatcher sees "eye-to-eye" with Peres on the nature of an international conference, the deputy prime minister said, and she fully endorses his view that Russian participation can be considered only if Moscow accepts a purely peripheral role. It must also prove more forthcoming by permitting more emigration to Israel, Peres added.

Peres said that Thatcher supports his view of the conference as an umbrella beneath which Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation

can hold direct talks. She has agreed to try to press the Soviets into accepting this formulation, he said.

Sources in the Peres camp told *The Jerusalem Post* that Thatcher had played "a vital role" in convincing Jordan's King Hussein that his interests would be best served by this kind of conference.

Several leading Palestinians from the territories have recently declared themselves willing to join a Palestinian delegation to a peace conference, the sources added, leaving the question of Soviet participation as the major stumbling block.

Peres said that Thatcher understood the urgency of the Middle East situation, and the need to convene an international conference by early 1988 at the latest. After that, the U.S. presidential elections would mean at least a year of stalemate.

Such a stalemate would both be damaging in itself and in allowing the Soviet Union to maintain its initiative in the region, Peres said.

Thatcher is to meet with Hussein in London next week, and with President Reagan in Washington next month, and Peres said he hoped that she would stress to both leaders the need to extract an unequivocal statement from the Soviet Union regarding its position vis-a-vis the international conference.

Although Peres is here on a private visit, the Prime Minister's Office took the unusual step of issuing a statement following the talks, endorsing the international conference as "the most practical way forward to negotiations between the parties directly concerned."

The First International Bank Where my priorities come first

When the Banks are closed, First International is open.

First International is open every day until 2:00 in the afternoon, and on Monday and Wednesday from 4:00 until 7:00 in the evening. These convenient banking hours allow me to conduct my financial business when the other banks are closed.

Open an account with First International too.

The weather at major Swissair destinations

23.6.87	MIN.	MAX.	WIND	WEATHER
AMSTERDAM	14	18	10	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	14	18	10	Cloudy
COLOGNE	14	18	10	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	14	18	10	Cloudy
GENEVA	14	18	10	Cloudy
LONDON	14	18	10	Cloudy
MADRID	14	18	10	Cloudy
MONTREAL	14	18	10	Cloudy
NEW YORK	14	18	10	Cloudy
OSLO	14	18	10	Cloudy
PARIS	14	18	10	Cloudy
ROME	14	18	10	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	14	18	10	Cloudy
TOKYO	14	18	10	Cloudy
TORONTO	14	18	10	Cloudy
ZURICH	14	18	10	Cloudy

For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.
Tel Aviv: 1 Ben Yehuda St. Tel. 33-112222
Jerusalem: 37 Yaffa St. 33-331373
Haifa: 2 Shik Road 33-334155
Beer Sheva: 35 Ha'azot St. 33-332230
Cairo: Beni Ghar Airport 03-712181

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Coolish	Yesterday's	Today's
Jerusalem	20-33	20-33
Golan	14-19	14-19
Nahariya	22-30	22-30
Safed	14-19	14-19
Haifa Port	22-30	22-30
Tiberias	18-28	18-28
Nazareth	18-28	18-28
Afula	18-28	18-28
Sharon	21-34	21-34
Tel Aviv	21-34	21-34
B-G Airport	18-32	18-32
Jericho	18-41	18-41
Gaza	21-28	21-28
Beersheba	18-38	18-38
Elat	24-43	24-43

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Joseph Harmatz, director-general of World ORT Union, was received by President Chaim Herzog during his recent visit to Israel. They discussed World ORT affairs.

A reception and luncheon in honour of Dr. (hon.c.) Arthur Hubert, OBE., and Chief Rabbi Bernard M. Casper, of South Africa, were given at Kiryat Ya'akov Herzog (Midrashia Yeshiva High School) on June 9. Speakers at the luncheon were Rabbi Dr. Alexander Carlebach, vice-chairman of the Friends of Midrashia in Israel, and Minister of Religious Affairs, Zevulun Hammer. Dr. Hubert and Rabbi Casper responded.

U.S. Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering and Mrs. Alice Pickering, yesterday received honorary citizenship of Kiryat Telshe Stone during America Day, one of the 18th anniversary celebrations of the founding of Kiryat Telshe Stone.

Marriage

JACOBY-CHAIKIN. - Yehzekel (Zekie), son of Hannah and Sasson Jacoby, of Jerusalem, to Ronit, daughter of Miriam and Yitzhak Chaikin, of Tel Aviv, on Tuesday June 23, 1987, Sivan 26, 5747, in Jerusalem.

Nehamkin saves road

By DAVID RUDGE

HAIFA. - Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin yesterday ordered the Israel Lands Administration to cease destroying a road linking Kfar el Arryan, a village near Umm el-Fahm, with the Umm el-Fahm-Arara road.

In response to an appeal by Mapam MKs Mohammed Wattad and Victor Shemtov, Nehamkin said he was halting destruction of the road until the matter is clarified.

Citizens Rights Movement MKs Yossi Sarid and Dedi Zucker yesterday joined hundreds of Arabs from the Triangle who visited Kfar el Arryan in a show of support for local residents.

The villagers said 10 women residents were injured in clashes with police and ILA workers on Monday when they staged a sit-down strike in front of the bulldozers. Several needed first-aid treatment afterwards, they said.

The villagers said the bulldozers arrived after their men had gone to work in the morning.

The residents had built the 2km. road with some NIS 30,000 of their own funds as part of an effort to persuade the authorities to recognize the settlement. The village comprises 20 houses, 15 of which have been built without permits. The other five, built in the 1920s, are recognized as legitimate.

The Lands Administration claims that the 500-metre stretch which was torn up was located on state land, and that the road had been built without a permit.

Sarid told the residents that those who had destroyed the road had also destroyed the path to peace.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Arabs complain of anti-strike pressure from Jewish bosses

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

NAZARETH. - Arab workers complained yesterday of being pressured by their Jewish bosses to ignore today's scheduled general strike by Israeli Arabs.

Several residents of this mixed Moslem and Christian city said they were told they would be fired if they did not report to work as usual in the morning.

The complaints are being taken seriously by organizers of the one-day nationwide stoppage, which has been called to protest against the government's "apartheid" policies. "We will protect the interests of

those working in the Jewish sector if any action is taken against them for participating in the strike," said one member of the strike committee here.

"It is the basic right of anybody in a democratic country to stop work as a form of protest or to draw attention to a specific problem," he added.

The thousands of Nazareth residents who work outside the town due to the dearth of local jobs are among some 140,000 Arabs employed by Jewish businesses and institutions throughout the country.

Strike organizers said they expected the "vast majority" of these workers to join with the rest of the

700,000-strong Israeli Arab community in answering the strike call.

Four kibbutzim, Yasur in Western Galilee, Gazit near Afula, Barkai near Hadera, and Shuval in the Negev, staged rallies last night in support of the "Day of Equality" strike. The gatherings were attended by Mapam MKs and Arab and Beduin leaders.

Minister without Portfolio Ezer Weizman yesterday called on Arab leaders to "exercise patience while two proposals of his concerning Israeli Arabs are discussed in the cabinet."

One proposal calls for a five-year plan to "bridge the gaps" between

Jewish and Arab communities by building 1,000 new classrooms and by improving Arab communities' roads, sewage systems and water lines.

In the second - on Biram and Ikrit - Weizman recommends the establishment of an "inter-departmental committee" that would include former residents, which would formulate a solution to the problem of resettling former residents of the two villages.

Matriculation exams in history and civics will be held in Arab schools today as scheduled in spite of the expected strike, the Education Ministry announced.

Grim facts outline fate of Russian PoWs

By ERNIE MEYER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Yesterday's session of the Demjanjuk trial turned into a history lesson on the gruesome fate of Russian soldiers captured by the Germans during World War II. The accused was such a prisoner of war.

The facts emerged during state attorney Yona Blatman's cross-examination of Yad Vashem chief archivist Dr. Shmuel Krakowski, on the fate of these PoWs, in an effort to punch holes in Demjanjuk's alibi.

From the first months of the war until the end of 1941, 3,350,000 Russians fell into German hands. In 1942 the number was down to 1,600,000, and as the war turned against the Germans it kept falling: 570,000 in 1943, 150,000 in 1944 and 30,000 in 1945.

The total number of Russian prisoners was thus about 5,700,000, and it is estimated that of this number 3.5-4 million perished.

Blatman questioned Krakowski on German policy regarding these PoWs. "There were two contradictory policies," the witness said. "The one was to eradicate all Communist leadership and, of course, all Jews, while the other was to enroll suitable elements as auxiliary forces."

The Germans, he said, never expected to capture such vast numbers of prisoners.

In 1941 alone they allowed 2 million to die in open fields, without water, food or shelter. Many of the men froze to death, he said.

Later in the war the Germans began to appreciate the potential of Volksdeutsche (ethnic Germans), Ukrainians, Lithuanians, Latvians and Estonians as auxiliaries, Krakowski testified.

"What happened to Jewish prisoners of war?" Blatman asked.

They were immediately weeded out and shot as the order was given for commissars and Jews to step forward, Krakowski said. During such initial selections the prisoners were often ordered to show if they had been circumcised. "This practice continued until the end of the war," he said.

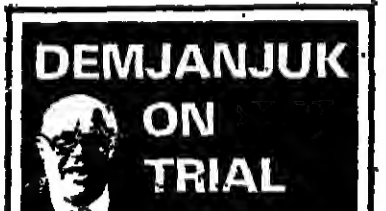
This testimony was submitted by the prosecution to refute claims by the accused that at the Chelm prisoner of war camp he had served under a Jewish kapo.

Krakowski estimated that the Germans enlisted almost 1 million Russian prisoners in their various services. Perhaps 60-70 per cent of these were Ukrainians, although many refused to cooperate, and

many more Ukrainians than those who had collaborated, fought loyally in the Red Army, the witness said.

Much of Blatman's questioning concerned the prisoner of war camp at Chelm where Demjanjuk claims to have been from the autumn of 1942 until the spring of 1944, the period during which the prosecution says he was at Treblinka.

Demjanjuk was captured in the battle of Kerch on the Crimean peninsula in the summer of 1942 (and not 1941, as printed here yesterday). But Blatman undermined Demjanjuk's claim that he was at the camp for 18 months, when in cross-examination the witness said that Chelm was a transit camp at



DEMJEANJUK ON TRIAL

which prisoners usually stayed only for a few weeks before being shipped to Germany for work.

The camp later housed Italian war prisoners, after that country's collapse, and it was closed in April 1944, Krakowski said.

Defence counsel Mark O'Connor started his cross-examination of Krakowski by reviewing the historian's curriculum vitae, although Blatman had already done so.

Krakowski was born in Lodz in 1926. With the German invasion he moved to the ghetto and was later taken to Auschwitz and Buchenwald. He escaped during a death march, was recaptured and taken to Theresienstadt, where he was finally liberated in May, 1945.

He joined the signal corps of the Polish army in 1947 and by 1954 had risen to the rank of major. "I was involved in publications, intelligence work and military history," Krakowski said.

"I joined the Communist underground in the Lodz ghetto in 1942," Krakowski said. "As a result of this I was accepted into the military academy after the war. But later I changed."

At this stage of the cross-examination presiding judge Dov Levin interjected that "the court will not ask about your private political views, and if you are so asked it will instruct you not to answer."

(Continued on Page 9)

Talks with Egged resume

By JONATHAN KARP

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. - Negotiations between Egged and the Transport and Finance Ministries on a new contract are to resume this morning. The last time the sides met was before Egged launched its partial strike last week.

The Jerusalem District Court yesterday rejected Egged's request to cancel two restraining orders against the cooperative. Judge Elisha Ben-Zimra, who delayed the hearing for half an hour because members of Egged's secretariat failed to show up on time, ruled that the orders would remain in effect and warned that the secretariat members will be fined or imprisoned if they violate the injunctions.

Egged's lawyer declared that the cooperative would honour the court

orders and not disrupt public transportation.

Knesset Economic Committee chairman Elisha Speiser said that Egged was entitled to NIS 30-40 million of immediate aid. Speiser, who called a meeting of the committee to discuss measures to prevent the recurrence of the Egged crisis, noted that Prime Minister Shamir had requested that the government and Egged reach an agreement within 10 days. Speiser accused the government of neglecting its obligations to Egged, thus causing the cooperative's financial crisis.

The winning numbers in this week's Loto draw were 10, 17, 23, 24, 32 and 39. The additional number was 6.

POLICE DENY

(Continued from Page One)

"Anyone who knows anything about the set-up here will realize that politics do not come into it at all. If there are suspicions against someone, the police do their work and investigate, whatever part of the political rainbow the suspect comes from," said one official.

Likud chairman Haim Kaufman said that the same Bar-Lev who got \$600,000 from financier David Balas was the one who tried to shield him. "No party in the world ever got such a huge donation for its funds," he said.

"Bar-Lev is the number-one sus-

pect; Shimon Peres is the number two," Kaufman said.

Pessah Grupper said the Likud deserved all the persecution it was suffering at Labour's hands, because it failed to raise a storm at the proper time. The biggest scandal for which Labour was responsible, Grupper charged, was the fraud in the Matafi corporation, the purchasing and financial company of the moshav movement, now in receivership.

Benny Shalita said the police are probing five Likud mayors, either on non-existent charges or on technical offences, as part of their pro-Labour bias, at Bar-Lev's orders.

Deputy Minister Ronnie Milo who called the faction meeting, said: "We have a political police, a force of hypocrites who threaten this country's democratic system, because they have made part of the public lose faith in their integrity." Milo accused Bar-Lev and the police of trying to halt the enquiry into the David Balas financial scandal and of deliberately letting the principal witness leave the country.



British Prime Minister Thatcher welcomes Vice Premier Peres to 10 Downing Street yesterday, the second day of Peres's European tour to drum up support for an international peace conference on the Middle East. (Renter telephoto)

Garbage truck drivers get back-to-work order in TA

By JONATHAN KARP

TEL AVIV. - The Tel Aviv District Labour Court yesterday ordered the city's 200 garbage-truck drivers back to resume full work. But the sanctions, started last Wednesday, are likely to continue as the drivers argue that their work-to-rule schedule is not illegal.

The court order took force at 7 p.m. yesterday and is to remain in effect until tomorrow morning when the court is to convene to hear the two sides.

The drivers are seeking a 6 per cent pay rise. Mayor Lahat meanwhile announced that scouts would distribute plastic bags throughout the city

and that areas would be established for residents to dispose of their trash. The city intends to pay the public to take their garbage to these dumps, Lahat told reporters at city hall.

He also repeated a threat to hire private companies to collect garbage "rather than give in to extortion." Lahat said that illegal sanctions in the past by garbage-truck drivers had been ignored. "Because Tel Aviv is particularly sensitive to cleanliness, we always made concessions," he said. "Now I told them that this is the end of the road."

Lahat added that at more than \$1,000 a month, drivers' salaries are among the highest in the municipality.

Beauty contest ires feminists

By ANDY COURT

Amid protests by feminists, working women from around the country competed last night in a "Beauty in the Workplace" contest at Jerusalem's Binyanei Ha'uma.

Some 100 representatives of seven feminist organizations staged a satirical "King of the Workplace" competi-

tion outside the building. Many of the protesters wore signs showing an elephant having his measurements taken above the words "The Outstanding Elephant Worker."

"A woman worker should be judged by her ability and not by her beauty," said protester Shoshana Kahn of Rehovot.

Nakash asks court for injunction

The High Court of Justice this morning is to consider a request by William Nakash for a temporary injunction barring his extradition to France.

Nakash's attorneys, Roland Roth and Simha Mervin, petitioned the court yesterday against Monday's decision by Justice Minister Avraham Shari' to extradite Nakash to face charges of killing an Arab in Besancon, France, in 1983. The petition was for an order nisi against Shari' and the Prisons Service Commissioner, requiring them to explain why Nakash should not be allowed to remain in Israel.

Supreme Court Justice Menahem Elon ordered that the petition be heard before a panel of three justices. At this morning's hearing, the court will decide only whether to bar

Nakash's extradition pending a ruling on the petition.

The attorneys argued in the petition that the Justice Ministry team that checked the conditions of French jails had not properly examined all the evidence. Shari's original decision not to extradite Nakash, which was struck down by the High Court, had been based on fears that Arab prisoners in French jails might harm Nakash.

The petition also states that Shari' had not weighed the possibility of prosecuting Nakash here, that he had not taken humanitarian considerations into account and that he had ignored the fact that Nakash's wife Rina is pregnant.

The attorneys also argue that Shari' had not weighed political considerations and that France, in a similar situation, would not have issued an extradition order. (Item)

Rabin says Soviets angling for M.E. role

By ASHER WALLFISH

Post Knesset Correspondent

The Soviet Union is exploiting the fact that the Reagan presidency is winding down so as to regain a central role in the Middle East, Defence Minister Rabin said yesterday. Briefing the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, Rabin also said that the Soviet Union is making unprecedented efforts to end the Iran-Iraq conflict.

The U.S., for its part, has been unable to gain support for its plan to defend Kuwaiti oil tankers from Iranian air attack, he said. When the U.S. suggested that Kuwait let the tankers fly the Stars and Stripes and be given U.S. air cover, Kuwait said it would agree only if the Soviet Union cooperated.

Rabin said the Soviet Union is also trying to mediate in the long-standing quarrel between Iraq and Syria with a view to bringing Iraq back into the Soviet orbit. It is acting on the premise that the ending of the Gulf War would bring Syria and Iraq closer.

Rabin said that the Palestine Li-

beration Organization is the Soviet Union's most effective tool for the penetration of the region.

In the discussion in the committee, Dan Meridor (Likud) argued that the campaign to promote an international peace conference (launched by Vice Premier Peres) served the Soviet interest of making a Middle East comeback.

He also said that the Israeli Arab community was being increasingly influenced by the Soviets. Pinhas Goldstein (Likud) and Elazar Granot (Mapam) asked Rabin for his views on reservists submitting petitions about political issues. Rabin replied that the chief of staff had notified him that he had issued strict orders banning all such petitions.

Rafael Eitan (Tehiya) asked Rabin whether it was true that Alim Mishne (Res.) Eli Geva was returning to IDF service. "No," Rabin replied.

During the war in Lebanon, when Eitan was CGS, Geva gave up his command because of his opposition to the siege of Beirut.

The politest man in the House

By DVORAH GETZLER

Post Knesset Reporter

Likud MK Uzi Landau is a man who holds extreme views and does not easily yield in his opinions, but he argues always with courtesy.

Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel said yesterday.

Landau was cited in the Knesset as winner of this year's "Most Polite MK," award, made by the Association for a Better Israel.

We deeply mourn the passing in New York of our beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

SONIA GREENBERG ז"ל

widow of Rabbi Elias Greenberg ז"ל

Her children: Gertrude and Bernard Levine, N.Y.
Lillian and Elliot Zupnick, N.Y.
Aharon (Harold) and Chana Greenberg, Jerusalem
Yitzchak (Irving) and Blu Greenberg, N.Y.

And her grandchildren and great-grandchildren
Shiva is being observed in New York.

ז"ל זכרה בידך

To MARJORIE SHERMAN

Our love and thoughts are with you on the first yearzeit of our beloved grandpa

ARCHIE SHERMAN ז"ל

David, Phillip, Nicole, Jeremy, Anthony, Lisa and Daniel

The Board of Governors
The International Board of Directors
Administration & Staff of
The Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem,
pays tribute to the memory
of a great benefactor

ARCHIE SHERMAN ז"ל

on his first yearzeit
June 24th, 1987 - 27 Sivan, 5747

ARCHIE SHERMAN ז"ל

A genuine friend and supporter
who passed away a year ago.

Sadly missed by all his friends at

The Israel Tennis Centres

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of
our father and grandfather

Dr. RUDOLF GOTTSCHALK ז"ל

In his 86th year.

He bequeathed his body to science.
Please refrain from condolence visits.

The Bereaved Family

Educational Centres of the Rabbinical Council of America

Yeshivat Hadarom
Rehovot

Can Yavne Youth Village
Yeshivat Achuzat Yaakov

Salute and Congratulate

Mr. KURT ROTHSCHILD

on the Honorary Fellowship awarded him by the
Jerusalem College of Technology.

On the fourth Yearzeit of the passing of
my unforgettable beloved husband

HERMAN SALAMONOVITZ ז"ל

משה צבי הלפרין

New York - Jerusalem

a memorial service will be held on
Thursday, June 25, 1987 at 5:00 p.m.
at Har Hamenuhot, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem.
We will meet at the entrance to the cemetery.

Wife, Margaret
and Family

Handwritten text in Hebrew: משה צבי הלפרין

Release of two Beirut hostages expected soon

Post Middle East Staff and Agencies

The release of kidnapped U.S. journalist Charles Glass and Ali Oseiran, the son of Lebanon's defence minister, could come any time, security sources in Beirut said last night.

But the Syrian Army intelligence chief in Lebanon, Ghazi Kanaan, said no firm deadline had been set for the release of the hostages, believed held by Shi'ite extremists.

The Syrian Army and Iranian-backed Shi'ite Moslem zealots apparently sought yesterday to avert a showdown over the abduction of the two men. "We are working to obtain their liberation. But a deadline has not been set yet," Kanaan was quoted as saying by state-run Radio Beirut.

The statement was broadcast just before the expiration of a sundown deadline reportedly set by the Syrian command for the release of the captives.

Almost simultaneously, the

Iranian-allied Hizbullah Shi'ite fundamentalist faction broke a week-long silence about charges of involvement in the abduction.

"We do not approve this incident," said a statement from Hizbullah, or Party of God. "We fully realize its political and security dimensions. We do not know the culprits and hope efforts to discover them will bear fruits."

The exchange of apparently soothing statements suggests a new chance has been given for backstage negotiations to bring about the release of the hostages through peaceful means.

Local radio stations have been saying the Syrian army might storm into south Beirut's Shi'ite slums to crack down on militant factions if Glass and Oseiran were not let go quickly enough.

Glass is the first foreigner abducted since Syria deployed 7,500 troops in Moslem West Beirut on February 22 to curb three years of militia anarchy.



South Korea's top dissident, Kim Dae Jung, whose release from house arrest is being negotiated as part of a 'democracy package' to end nationwide protests, waves from his garden yesterday. (Reuters)

Chun and Kim to hold crucial talks today

SEOUL (AFP). — President Chun Doo Hwan and opposition leader Kim Young Sam agreed yesterday after a day of hectic political and diplomatic maneuvering to discuss the crisis which has gripped South Korea for the past fortnight.

The planned meeting today has been one of the major opposition demands during the violent and sustained rioting which has rocked the country. But Kim's accord for the meeting came only late last night.

In their first talks, Chun and Kim are expected to discuss how to resolve differences on constitutional reform and the opposition leader has

said he will call for the release of all those arrested in connection with the riots and the lifting of the house arrest order on top dissident Kim Dae Jung.

Source said Kim Young Sam held off giving his agreement for the meeting until the last moment in order to put pressure on Chun to release Kim Dae Jung before their talks.

But last night Kim Young Sam's entourage said that he had agreed to meet Chun today after getting government clearance to talk with Kim Dae Jung at his home shortly before-hand.

U.S. warns Soviets on role in Mideast

WASHINGTON (AP). — Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy will inform a senior Soviet diplomat next month in Geneva that unless Moscow adopts a more constructive policy, the U.S. will oppose a Soviet role in Mideast peace talks, State Department officials say.

"Any Soviet role in the peace process must be linked to a demonstration of constructive Soviet behaviour," said Phyllis Oakley, a department spokeswoman. "We have yet to see a serious effort on their part towards such behaviour."

Another department official said the Soviets had "disinherited themselves by their actions, their support for more radical elements and groups."

Murphy is due to meet with Vladimir Polyakov, a top Soviet specialist on the Middle East, in Geneva around July 7.

Meanwhile, PLO leader Yasser Arafat on Monday confirmed that he still believes UN Resolutions 242 should be a key element to any Middle East peace settlement.

Arafat's statement — read to a UN-sponsored seminar on Palestinian problems — followed a meeting in Algiers two months ago at which the broad-based Palestine National Council rejected Resolution 242, which recognizes Israel's right to exist.

Arafat renewed his support for an international peace conference on the Middle East, as urged by the UN General Assembly, "on the basis of international legitimacy as represented in all the United Nations resolutions concerning the question of Palestine and the question of the Middle East, including Security Council Resolution 242."

The PLO has refused to conduct negotiations on the basis of 242 alone because the resolution doesn't recognize the Palestinian right to self-determination.

In Moscow, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze appealed for the PLO and Syria to settle their differences and work together towards a Middle East settlement.

Bush denies report of extra-marital affair

WASHINGTON (AP). — A White House spokesman has belittled a published report about a long-term affair between Vice-President George Bush and an unidentified woman.

Spokesman Marilyn Fitzwater, accompanying President Ronald Reagan to Florida, was asked about the report published in *Newsweek* magazine and a reference to rumours published by *U.S. News and World Report*.

"I hear gossip in the White House press room and I'm sure that's all it is. It's foolish," said Fitzwater, who was Bush's press secretary until last February.

George Bush Jr., the vice-president's oldest son and campaign adviser, told *Newsweek* he approached his father and said, "You've heard the rumours. What about it?" The magazine said the

vice-president replied, "They're just not true."

The adultery question has been nagging U.S. politicians ever since the Democratic front-runner, Gary Hart, was forced out of the 1988 presidential field by the controversy over his relationship with Donna Rice of Miami.

Newsweek said the rumours were being spread by supporters of other Republican presidential candidates. However, reporters who heard the gossip said they heard it from sources not involved with Bush's competition.

"They're trying to undermine one of my father's great political strengths, the strength of our family," the younger Bush was quoted as saying. George Bush and his wife, Barbara, have been married for 42 years.

World arms bill at \$900b. in 1985

WASHINGTON (AP). — The nations of the world stepped up their spending on arms to nearly \$900 billion in 1985, an increase of 3.7 per cent from the previous year, the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency estimated last week.

The U.S. and the Soviet Union, which together account for more than half the weapons sales, continued to run neck-and-neck, the agency said. Over the 1981-1985 period, the Soviets sold \$55.7b worth of arms, or nearly 30 per cent of weapons purchased by all nations.

The U.S., meanwhile, sold \$49.2b., or 26 per cent, but was ahead of the Soviets in two of the years, 1983 and 1985.

The U.S.- and Soviet-led alliances — the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Warsaw Pact — accounted for 77.3 per cent of military spending in 1985, the last year for which detailed statistics were compiled.

The 17th annual report of the Arms Control Agency did not list any U.S. weapons sales to Iran. Officials, demanding anonymity, said they relied on the Central Intelligence Agency and other U.S. intelligence groups for their information.

President Ronald Reagan has acknowledged authorizing surreptitious arms sales to Iran beginning in November 1985 through Israel. Up to \$30 million worth were provided before deliveries were stopped last year.

Ranked behind the two superpowers were Great Britain, China, West Germany, France, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Poland and Japan.

Africa was the only region of the world in which the growth rate of military spending declined between 1980 and 1984, the report said.

At the same time, the growth of the world's armed forces accelerated. Iraq, which is locked in its seventh year of war with Iran, accounted for 30 per cent of the increase in 1984. Nato grew at a rate of 1.3 per cent, compared with the Warsaw Pact's growth of 0.9 per cent.

Iraq is also the world's leading arms importer. It bought \$7.7b. worth in 1984, more than twice Saudi Arabia, which ranked second with \$2.6b. The next leading importers were Iran, \$2.2b.; Libya, \$1.8b.; Egypt, \$1.6b.; and Syria, \$1.5b.

China reduced its armed forces to 4.1 million in 1984, from a peak of about 4.75 million in 1981, but still ranked second only to the Soviet Union, which had 4.5 million armed troops.

The U.S. was third with 2.2 million military personnel, and two developing countries, India and Vietnam, fourth and fifth with 1.4 million and 1 million, respectively.

Five developing countries — Turkey, Iraq, North Korea, Pakistan and South Korea — ranked next in order, exceeding such traditional military powers as France, Italy and West Germany.

Third World arms producers captured only 7 per cent of the arms market in 1985, barely above the level of a decade ago.

FOREIGN BRIEFS

Shultz and Shevardnadze set to meet in July

WASHINGTON (AFP). — A senior U.S. official said here yesterday that July 10-11 had been set as the probable dates for a meeting in Washington on arms control between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and his Soviet opposite number Eduard Shevardnadze.

Another U.S. official said the July meeting would also discuss human rights and the possible summit meeting would also discuss human rights and the possible summit meeting between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The official said talks in Geneva on intermediate-range nuclear force reductions would continue until the July meeting when the secretary of state and foreign minister would try to resolve outstanding problems.

Thousands flee gas leak in Bhopal

BHOPAL, India (AFP). — Thousands of people fled their homes here late Monday after ammonia gas spewed out of an ice-cream factory, bringing back memories of a 1984 gas leak which affected 500,000 people, police said yesterday.

Hundreds of families fled Bhopal for nearby towns after the ammonia leak around midnight at an ice-cream factory located near the Union Carbide Corp. pesticides plant which leaked toxic gas in December 1984, police said.

No deaths were reported from the ammonia leak, which was controlled after experts rushed to the factory and plugged a damaged pipe, police said.

'Pizza Connection' leaders get 45-year terms

NEW YORK (AFP). — A federal judge has sentenced the reputed former chief of the Sicilian Mafia and an associate to 45-year prison terms for running a \$1.6 billion narcotics smuggling ring.

Gaetano Badalamenti, 64, and his ringleader, Salvatore Catalano, 46, received the sentences Monday from U.S. District Judge Pierre Leval after a hearing in which a prosecutor called them "bloodsucking parasites."

Two of their underlings also received stiff sentences for helping run the ring, known as the "Pizza Connection" because pizzerias were reportedly used as fronts to distribute large amounts of heroin and cocaine between 1975 and 1984.

Tamil separatists call temporary truce

MADRAS, India (AFP). — Sri Lanka's dominant Tamil guerrilla group announced yesterday a temporary cease-fire in its war against government forces to allow distribution of Indian aid to the Tamils of the Jaffna peninsula.

Anton Balasingham, political adviser to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), said, "The LTTE will cease all armed actions from the time the Indian food ship arrives in Jaffna until the provisions are distributed."

An Indian ship carrying 780 tons of relief supplies is to sail from this southern Indian city, capital of Tamil Nadu state, to Kankesanthurai in the northern Sri Lankan peninsula today.

It is expected to reach its destination tomorrow.

Aquino calls for 'people's war' against terrorism

MANILA (AFP). — President Corazon Aquino, angered by spiralling violence in the wake of the May congressional polls, yesterday called for a "people's war" against what she termed terrorism by the left and right.

"I call on our people to report all suspicious activities and persons to the police and military authorities in the area," Aquino said in a speech to Philippine naval personnel, repeating an appeal made two weeks ago.

Aquino was installed as president in February 1986 as a result of a popular, non-violent uprising that has come to be known as "people power."

Six missing after tankers collide on Seine

ROUEN, France (AFP). — A Greek tanker exploded in flames after it was struck by a Japanese tanker on the Seine River yesterday, leaving six crewmen missing and two others injured, officials here said.

They said the 16,515-ton Greek vessel *Victoria* was split in two by the Japanese tanker *Fuyoh Maru*, whose steering mechanism failed in a bend of the river halfway between Rouen and the port of Le Havre.

The *Fuyoh Maru*, loaded with 11,500 tons of kerosene, suffered serious damage to its bow, officials said.

Five crew members and a French navigation pilot aboard the *Victoria* were missing and two others were injured.

300,000 march to protest ETA bombing

BARCELONA (AFP). — An estimated 300,000 people took part in a protest march here against last week's ETA bomb attack which left 17 people dead in a Barcelona supermarket.

The march, organized by all the parties in Catalonia's autonomous parliament and attended both by leading Basque and Catalan political figures, followed a period of five minutes of silence at midday Monday which was observed by over half-a-million people, according to the trade unions which called for it.

The underground ETA organization admitted that one of its units carried out the bombing, and said it had been a "serious mistake" of a type which it would strive to avoid in future.

Protesters carried a huge banner which read "ETA. Your struggle is not ours."

Power struggle turns savage in Iran

By FARZAD BAZOFT

LONDON. — With the Iranian election due next year, a savage power struggle has begun between two of the country's most senior clerigymen, Ali Khomeini, who is in the last of his second term as president of Iran, and Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker since 1980. Under the Iranian constitution, a president can serve only two terms.

Rafsanjani, whose authority is under attack in Iran because of his involvement in the Irangate scandal, is apparently trying to persuade a number of senior officials in the

government to put themselves forward for Khomeini's post. Those in the Rafsanjani camp are said to be Mohammad Rafsanjani, his brother, who is director of the Iranian Radio and Television; Mohammad Iravani, Minister of Economics and Finance; and Dr. Taghi Banki, Minister of Energy, who resigned early this month. A reliable source in London said that "Banki's resignation was made possible so that he could prepare to fight Rafsanjani's battle."

The latest maneuvering by Rafsanjani follows Ayatollah Khomeini's recent disbandment of

the country's biggest political party, the IRP (Islamic Republican Party).

The IRP, founded shortly after Iran's Islamic revolution in 1979, was headed by Ali Khomeini. Its aim was to unite the forces of the revolution. As this was held to have been achieved (although it clearly has not), the proposal to dissolve the party was put forward to Khomeini and reluctantly supported by Khomeini.

The disbandment was speeded up by Rafsanjani in a move to weaken Khomeini's political base, and there is no doubt that Khomeini, a moderate

conservative, has apparently reacted by trying to use his authority to convince Ayatollah Khomeini to change the constitution so as to make it possible for a president to be elected for a third term.

The complicated in-fighting, which has been simmering for three years, came out into the open last October when a senior Syrian diplomat was kidnapped in Teheran and then quickly released. What has now really begun, it is clear, is the final fight for power in post-Khomeini Iran.

(London Observer Service)

Rajiv Gandhi, India's great hope, is beset by woes

The tarnished image of 'Mr. Clean'

NEW DELHI (AP). — The public sympathy that swept Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi into office after his mother's assassination has turned to scorn among many Indians as he grapples with an election defeat, corruption and ethnic violence.

In tradition-bound India, it may be difficult to dislodge Gandhi, the son of Indira Gandhi and grandson of a key figure in the country's struggle for independence, Jawaharlal Nehru. Yet, he is attacked almost daily in editorials and ridiculed in

cartoons. The opposition howls for his resignation constantly. He and his Congress Party face increasingly vociferous accusations of corruption and policy failures.

Most recent in a long string of woes besieging Gandhi and his government was the Congress Party's crushing defeat in a key Hindu state election, the third major loss for the party this year.

The party won only four of the 87 state assembly seats in Haryana, a small state but a Hindu-speaking

Ganges plain that is the party's power base.

Opposition leaders called the defeat a turning point in Indian politics and a signal that Gandhi has lost the confidence of the people.

The defeat was not a knockout blow for Gandhi, whose party and family have governed India for most of its 40 years of independence, but even friendly newspapers warned that the prime minister's troubles were fast adding up to a crisis.

Gandhi won a landslide victory in

1984 amid public outrage over the assassination of his mother. He was viewed as India's saviour, a bright young man with the determination and ability to solve the country's many problems. But expectations have not been realized.

In 1984, Gandhi's pledge to calm the Sikh violence in Punjab, banish corruption from business and politics and transform India into a modern society free of poverty.

Gandhi has introduced some economic reforms, but the business community that backed him now complains he is too slow in acting. Harsher critics say his policies aid the rich at the expense of the poor.

In Punjab, Sikh militants have killed more than 400 people this year in their campaign to turn the northern state into a separate nation for the minority religious sect.

Gandhi, once known as "Mr. Clean," has failed to rid India of corruption. He has been particularly embarrassed by charges that foreign weapons firms paid kickbacks to get Indian contracts. Evidence shows that Sweden's Bofors company paid \$39 million to Indian agents on contracts alone. After much delay, Gandhi has ordered a probe into that and other alleged kickback allegations.

Some critics are now saying publicly that the money went to Gandhi himself. Gandhi's reaction was simply to call the charge "a tissue of lies."

Gandhi's image was also damaged by his handling of former Finance Minister V.P. Singh, who was eased out of the government by the Congress Party after he built a reputation as a crusader against corruption.

(London Observer Service)

Show your children — The Story of the Six Day War 20 YEARS AFTER

FOLLOW ME The Story of the Six Day War — a dramatic video film of one of the greatest military victories of all time! Monumental footage caught by a team of 37 crack Israeli combat photographers, highlighted by previously censored segments, made available exclusively for the production of this film.

FOLLOW ME is a 95 minute black & white documentary that covers each of the three war fronts, with action shots of the gritty, courageous men and deeds that comprised this amazing war, as well as the songs that will be forever sung in tribute to those stunning six days.

FOLLOW ME a collector's item you'll enjoy watching again and again.

PRICE: NIS 59.00 Special for JP Readers

To: BOOKS, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000

Please send me **FOLLOW ME**... The Story of the Six Day War. My video system is ☐ VHS ☐ BETA I enclose a cheque for NIS 59.00

Name.....
Address.....
City..... Code.....
Tel.....

Meet the Israeli in his home

Israelis of all walks of life will open their homes and hearts to you. Enjoy their hospitality for a friendly, relaxed evening, and really get to know them.

Unser Volk liebt es Gäste zu empfangen. Wir Israelis werden Ihnen unsere Heime und Herzen öffnen. Wir würden uns sehr freuen Sie bei einem Abendempfang kennenzulernen.

Des familles israéliennes vous offrent leur hospitalité et leur amitié. Vous êtes invité à rencontrer une famille israélienne à sa maison et à passer avec elle une soirée amicale et amusante qui vous permettra de connaître de plus près la réalité israélienne.

Details:
Government Tourist Information Offices:
Jerusalem: 24 King George Ave. 02-241281, Jaffa Gate 02-282295/6
Tel Aviv: 7 Mendelci Street 03-223266/7
Eilat: Rechter Center 059-76737
Haifa: 18 Herzl Street 04-666521/2/3
Netania: Independence Sq. 053-27286

MINISTRY OF TOURISM

Chief rabbis' proposal dismays Jewish leaders

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Chief rabbis Avraham Shapira and Mordechai Eliahu yesterday proposed establishment of an office in the U.S. to deal with converts to Judaism who wish to settle in Israel.

The proposal as greeted with dismay by representatives of the Reform and Conservative movements, who said it was a step towards the "Vaticanization" of Judaism, with the chief rabbis ruling on the status of Jews all over the world.

The chief rabbis, who made their proposal before the Interministerial Committee on Conversion, headed by Religious Affairs Minister Ze'ev Hammer, argued that the problem is restricted to the relatively few converts who come to Israel.

They would not interfere with conversions performed in the U.S., they said, and their representatives would deal only with those converts who want to come to Israel. They stressed that not only were non-Orthodox conversions unsatisfactory in the eyes of Israeli rabbinical courts, many Orthodox conversions were lacking as well.

Franklyn Kreutler, president of the (Conservative) United Synagogue of America, rejected the proposal as totally unacceptable.

"I suspect that the representative of the chief rabbis would never accept any non-Orthodox conversion, even if it was conducted 100 per



Prime Minister Shamir gets a hug of greeting yesterday from Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Reform Movement's Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

cent according to halacha," Kreutler said yesterday. Eventually, he added, the chief rabbis would want to have representatives throughout the world.

Kreutler was one of a number of Conservative and Reform rabbis and lay leaders who met yesterday with Prime Minister Shamir, himself a member of the interministerial committee on conversion, in an effort to dissuade Shamir from supporting the "change of religion" proposal.

The proposal, which would make the rabbinical courts the final arbiters concerning the validity of any conversion brought to the attention

Firm Rabin 'no' on civil guard

By JOEL GREENBERG
Defence Minister Rabin yesterday categorically rejected proposals to establish a Civil Guard manned by settlers in the territories, as members of the Knesset Interior Committee toured the West Bank prior to their debate on the issue.

"There will be no Civil Guard in the territories — period," Rabin said during a visit to Sderot.

Five members of the Interior Committee visited the Dehaishe refugee camp, Efrat, and the Jewish settlement in Hebron on a fact-finding mission. They spoke for half an hour with Dehaishe residents, and later heard settlers in Efrat and Hebron urge establishment of a Civil Guard. Hebron settlers' representative Ze'ev Haver said that the Civil Guard was "vital" to ensure the security of settlers in Arab areas and along highways in the territories.

The MKs came away with mixed opinions. Committee chairman Dov Shilansky (Likud) and Ovadia Eli and Benny Shalit supported the establishment of a Civil Guard, while Aharon Nahmias and Dov Ben-Meir of Labour were opposed. Ben-Meir called the visit "a waste of time," and said a Civil Guard would mean the creation of "Jewish Phalanges" in the territories.

Housing Minister David Levy meanwhile dedicated new neighbourhoods at Alfei Menashe and Emmanuel.



(Rahumim Israeli)

Peek beyond the elbows

By MARSHA POMERANTZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Not all the action during Hebrew Book Week takes place at the central outdoor exhibitions in the major cities. Some bookshops are offering similar discounts (25 to 40 per cent), with fewer elbows to encounter from the jostling crowds.

Just north of the outdoor stalls set up in Kikar Malchei Yisrael here, a store named Razili has been advertising the usual printed wares — with air conditioning. West of the plaza, on Rehov Frishman, a second-hand store called Vayikra not only gives discounts on Hebrew books, but throws in a few other languages as well. A vintage edition of *Little Women* (1915) is going for NIS 2 this week.

But the plaza itself has its own fringe: along its west side the municipality has allocated space to self-published poets, for instance. One who attracted a small crowd this week with exhortations to parents to "guard your children from degenerate literature!" was Zohar Harari, a grey-haired man in a grey straw hat, a rumpled blue linen suit and a long pimento siver of a tie.

He went on at the top of his lungs. Rhymes and puns tumbling out, all preceded by an invocation of the name of God. He stood behind a table of his books and a large sign indicating he'd produced 34 to date. Poetry and philosophy for children and adults.

Among other authors on hand was Sgan-Aluf (res.) Yehuda Ziv, who

has written a guidebook to the local burial places of holy people. Yona, of whose fame, has seven reputed graves around the country, and Shimon, son of Ya'akov, has at least three along the coast. The coastal plain was apparently a favourite location for graves because that's where travellers on the main access routes looked for them.

A young author named Ya'akov Habakkuk, an expert on Beduin life, explained how he got into the field: at the age of 14 he hiked alone in the Judean Desert and got lost on the second day of his adventure. He came upon a Beduin tent, but all he "knew" of the people at the time was "they give you coffee, give you tea, and at the first opportunity, a knife in the back." In the event, he got a lot of coffee, but the knife never came.

Galilee Arab villages enter computer age

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Thirty-six Arab children have graduated from a computer course at the University of Haifa designed to launch Galilee Arab villages into the computer age.

Dr. Judith Cais, director of the university's in-service training department, said 12-year-olds were chosen by a specially designed series of tests, and spent a total of 56 hours in weekly four-hour sessions.

Taxis ferried the boys and girls from half a dozen villages to and from the course.

The programme was made possible by a \$40,000 donation from the New Israel Fund, mainly from Mr. and Mrs. Ed Joffe of Providence, Rhode Island.

The course's most significant result, Cais said, was the enthusiasm for computers it generated in the villages, where "funds are low" being collected to introduce computer programmes in primary schools.

Another course for village teachers is to begin in September. Plans are also being completed for software in Arabic for the village computers.

Tip-top care for BB's dogs

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Brigitte Bardot's two dogs, a pedigree St. Charles spaniel and a mongrel, due to participate in Israel's first international dog show, will share the special room she is taking for them at the Tel Aviv Hilton.

"The dogs will have colour television, a basket of fruit and a full VIP reception," Hilton public relations director Barbara Barkai said yesterday. "They will have their own room, linked to Bardot's with a connecting door." She added that the chefs are still uncertain what the dogs will be eating, but the kitchen staff is ready to provide whatever they may desire. As for Bardot, she is a vegetarian.

The former French film star is to arrive tonight or tomorrow with her dogs. The dog show will be held this weekend at Tel Aviv's exhibition grounds.

Workshop gift a birthday bonus

By JUDY SIEGEL

A mobile workshop for repairing wheelchairs has been donated by a West German company to the Yad Sarah organization in honour of its 10th anniversary.

The van was donated by Orthopedics, which produces equipment for the handicapped. It will allow those who borrow the free-of-charge wheelchairs from Yad Sarah to have them repaired at their homes, instead of bringing them in to one of the organization's 54 branches.

Prime Minister Shamir will speak at the first fund-raising dinner for Yad Sarah, marking the end of its 10th anniversary celebration, at the Jerusalem Hilton on July 1. Violinist Itzhak Perlman will perform for the guests. Yad Sarah hopes to raise over \$200,000 from the event.

'Caring wage law may hurt unskilled workers'

By JEFF BLACK
For The Jerusalem Post

Prof. Avraham Friedman, head of the Hebrew University's business school, is sceptical of the recently passed minimum-wage law.

"We are very good at enacting acts, we are very bad at enforcing them," he pointed out. "We have an ample supply of laws within the labour market, but we enforce very few."

Friedman argues that the minimum-wage law is based on political principles rather than economic ones.

"The law was passed," he said, "because you have certain ideologies in the Knesset. The ideology of caring for the lower-paid employees cuts across political lines from Tzuya to the Communists. And so a slogan like this appeals to everyone. But very few take into account its future impact."

The law's impact, according to Friedman, will be inflationary wages and unemployment among some unskilled workers.

He also believes the law interferes with labour relations.

"I think a minimum wage can be set by the two parties [the Histadrut and the employers] through negotiations," he said. "And with our strong unions and strong employers, we don't need the outside intervention of the legislature."

The only case for government intervention in wage negotiations,

Friedman maintained, is when the government feels one of the parties in the negotiations "is so weak, that the legislature has to intervene to ensure 'just bargaining'."

Labour legislation was introduced in the Western world when labour was weak compared with employers, Friedman noted.

"But this is not the situation in Israel," he stressed. "People here are still working with concepts from the 1930s."

Friedman warned that if the Histadrut is allowed to conduct its wage claims through both collective bargaining and government legislation, the whole scope of wage negotiations might change.

"The employer might say 'I don't want to negotiate because whatever we agree to in our negotiations can be changed through legislation'."

In addition, the minimum-wage law does not take into account the problem of wage differentials, Friedman maintained.

If the minimum wage rises, then workers above the minimum wage will want an increase to compensate for the erosion in wage differentials, he explained.

The only way to maintain wage parity, Friedman said, is to say that the next time there is a new wage agreement, then the lowest levels will not receive any benefits.

This, he concluded, is not what the Knesset intended.

(This article is the third in a series.)

Stand-in does his level best

JERUSALEM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: David Robertson, conductor, with Gil Shoham, violin, Jerusalem, Henry Crown Hall, June 18.1 Violins: Overture from "Machzor"; Bruch: Violin Concerto in G minor op. 26; Elmyr-Koranyi: "Scherzando," Symphony No. 35.

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA pecking order generally dictates that the last in line is the resident conductor. It was thus David Robertson who was called on to save the day for the JSO's Purple Series when Yuri Abaronovitch was suddenly indisposed last week. In all fairness, it must be said that he did his level best, and in all objectivity it must be added that this best seems to be getting better.

Fate has not been kind to Robertson, whom programme notes all seasons have described as presenting intriguing contemporary music in concert halls all over Europe. For the JSO, he has largely been saddled with run-of-the-mill 19th-century fare, the really challenging work being preserved for the orchestra's various chief guest conductors. This programme was obviously a quick-replacement job, to be worked up



MUSIC REVIEW

and dashed off creditably at short notice; and while it was professionally despatched, one finds it difficult to enthuse over yet another run-through of Scheherazade.

A printed insert in the programme informed concert-goers that the music for an intended performance of Prokofiev's Second Violin Concerto did not arrive in time, so all concerned maneuvered gingerly through the Bruch.

Violinist Shoham brought to his reading an unusual combination of full-bodied string tone and mysterious reticence of temperament. These same qualities characterized his encore as well, but it may all have been due to the unfortunate circumstances surrounding this final concert of the Purple Series.

DANIEL ZIFF

Ecological concern about Dan River power plants

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

KIRYAT SHMONA. — The Nature Reserves Authority has urged the closure of two Dan River hydro-electric plants near here to prevent causing "irreparable damage" to unique plant and animal life.

The authority also called on Water Commissioner Zerah Ishai to implement his earlier decision to shut the plants during the summer.

The NRA said Ishai had apparently rescinded the decision under pressure from local kibbutzim, which operate the plants at Kibbutz Hagashim and along the western part of the Dan itself.

Under the earlier agreement between the water commissioner, the NRA and the Nature Protection Society, the electricity generating stations were to have been shut during June, July and August.

Water would continue to be taken out of the Dan, near its source at Tel Dan, for irrigation and drinking purposes, but not in the same quantity needed to power the turbines of the hydro-electric plants.

This would have left sufficient water to maintain a steady flow in five rivulets fed by the Dan.

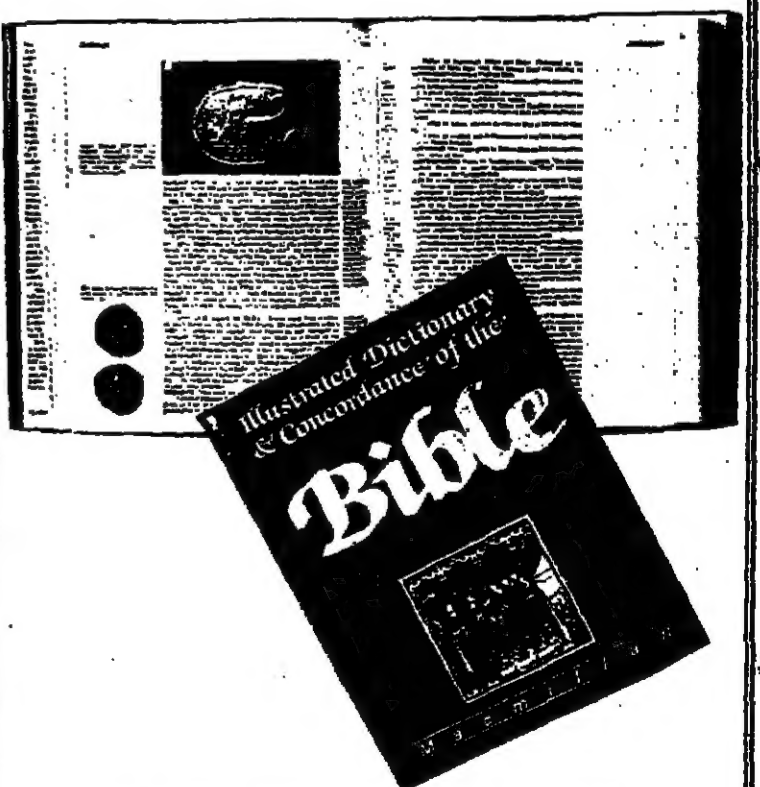
NRA deputy director Dan Perry said there were already signs that the brooks were drying up. If this continued, he said, it would endanger several species of plants and animals including marsh orchids, yellow flag irises and rare ferns. Various types of invertebrate animals found nowhere else in Israel or the Middle East would also be endangered.

"We had hoped that the winter rains would compensate for the previous three years of drought. Instead the water is going towards generating a small amount of electricity which is then sold off to the Israel Electric Corporation. The IEC supplies all the power needs of the region, regardless," said Perry.

He accused the power-plant operators and the Agriculture Ministry's water commissioner of endangering invaluable national assets for short-term profits on a "bad investment."

Perry maintained that local settlements could earn more money by casing in on tourists coming to the area to enjoy the natural resources than from the small amount of electricity sold to the IEC.

ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY & CONCORDANCE OF THE BIBLE



A magnificent reference work prepared by a distinguished team of U.S. and Israeli scholars that helps readers and devotees of all faiths enhance their interest in the Bible. The Dictionary & Concordance of the Bible identifies and explains every name in the Old and New Testaments, from persons and families to plants, animals, places, rituals, feast days, concepts and much more.

Magnificently illustrated, this comprehensive volume provides authoritative definitions of some 3,500 Biblical names, explaining the meaning and significance — historical as well as scriptural — of each one. As a concordance, the book makes Bible research simple; as a dictionary, it saves untold time and effort when basic information is sufficient. Published by Macmillan, illustrated with 1,500 photos and maps, hardcover, 1,070 pages.

PRICE: NIS 135

To: BOOKS, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000
Please send me the ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY & CONCORDANCE OF THE BIBLE. I enclose a cheque for NIS 135.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
CODE _____ TEL. _____

First American Town in Israel



American Ambassador, the honourable Thomas R. Pickering, and Mrs. Alice Pickering, receiving honorary citizenship of Kiryat Telshe Stone from Rabbi Moshe Sorotzkin, during America Day, one of the 18th anniversary celebrations of the founding of Kiryat Telshe Stone.

(Communicated)

THE ISRAELI FORUM JEWISH DIRECT LINE

The Israeli Forum welcomes participants in the Jewish Agency Annual Assembly.

The Israeli Forum, a non-profit organization of volunteers, seeks to promote a direct and open dialogue with Diaspora Jewry.

We call upon the delegates to the Assembly to dedicate their efforts to achieving a more united Zionist movement.

THE ISRAELI FORUM

0595-30-114

מכון תל אביב

The Algiers road to PLO ruin

THE PALESTINE National Council, "the Palestine Arabs' parliament in exile," as the Western media like to call it, held its 18th meeting in Algiers on April 20-26 to decide on the future policy of the PLO. From the outset, the meeting was in a state of euphoria, in a carnival atmosphere of celebration which infected not only the 319 delegates but also the many hundreds of reporters and supporters who crowded into the hall, Arafat's "foreign legion."

Before we take a closer look at the proceedings, which marked a point of no return for the PLO leadership on its long road to unmitigated disaster, let us look briefly at the picture provided to the innocent outsider by the media representatives assembled in Algiers. There was a consensus that they had witnessed a great revival in the fortunes of the PLO, and especially the re-emergence of Yasser Arafat as its unchallenged leader.

It was the same on television and radio, whether American or British, French or even Israeli: the star correspondents, the Middle East experts, were of the same mind. Eager politicians, including Ezer Weizman, jumped on the Algiers bandwagon of the reborn PLO. The headlines said it all.

The London *Guardian's* Jerusalem correspondent, Ian Black, who had hastened to Algiers for this auspicious occasion, spoke for them all: "Arafat basks in newly-achieved unity."

The London *Observer's* man in Algiers, Simon Ingram, wrote of Arafat "savouring his emphatic victory over his radical opponents within the Palestinian movement."

The London *Times* was no less enthusiastic: "Arafat yesterday led the PLO into a new era of unity that is a challenge to both Israel and the Arab leaders." And from Beirut, *The Times'* man added for good measure that Arafat's arch enemy, Syria's President Assad, had returned from Moscow promising to seek "reconciliation" with the newly re-united PLO.

The prestigious London *Economist's* Levant correspondent was at his most uninhibited in a BBC commentary, with a joyous welcome to Arafat as the new force in the Middle East.

It was the same everywhere. Arafat's foreign legion had not been so happy since the Lebanese War. The master was back in the saddle. That is how it looked, or was made to look, through the prism of the Western world's media. And many good men were, like Ezer Weizman, taken in.

Not so those who had kept a closer watch on the proceedings and had taken note of the really disturbing aspects of the Algiers conference, which had gone either unreported, or worse, misrepresented, in the eminent organs and networks that supplied the West with information.

IN ORDER to appreciate what really took place at the PNC meeting, it is necessary to look more closely at three aspects of the proceedings.

The first is the decisions taken that enabled Arafat to claim that the PLO has been reunited under his authority. These were best described in a commentary by leading Egyptian political journalist Bahy al-Din on Cairo Radio on April 26. After pointing out that a quarter of the delegates had not turned up (only 319 out of 426 delegates arrived), al-Din noted the bizarre conditions Arafat had accepted as the price for the return of the main radical factions to his side of the PLO.

The conditions were more like an

ultimatum which compelled Arafat to abandon the main props of his policy and accept the radical alternatives of his opponents. "He had to freeze relations between the PLO and Egypt; he had to abolish the PLO agreement with Jordan; and he had to reject official acceptance of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338." This left the PLO without any negotiating positions.

THE SECOND aspect of Arafat's switch is probably the most significant - and sinister - yet made by the PLO during his leadership. Although Arafat has said nothing about this, we know now that Sabri al-Banna, universally known as Abu Nidal, was in Algiers during the conference, that he had a long, secret meeting with Arafat, and that his men - though not Abu Nidal himself - participated in the meeting of the PNC as full members.

This emerged from a May 7 interview in Kuwait's *Al-Kabaa* newspaper with Abu Nidal, and a May 12 interview in Kuwait's *al-Anba* newspaper with Atif Abu Bakr, the official spokesman for Abu Nidal's "Fatah Revolutionary Council." It also became evident from their account that the Abu Nidal organization was in fact, the covert foreign legion of Arafat's Fatah. Far from being any longer Arafat's mortal enemy under sentence of death by Fatah, Abu Nidal was now recognized by Arafat as his agent for special operations for which Arafat did not want to assume responsibility.

Abu Nidal evidently had valuable information which he was prepared to share with Arafat as part of their newly formulated collaboration. He claimed that he had "moles" working for him in the administration in Washington and in the inner circles of some important Arab governments.

True or not, this was not the sort of claim Arafat could afford to ignore. It could be risky. Abu Nidal spoke openly of the "execution" of Palestinian leaders by his organization if they were suspected of collaborations with either Israel or the U.S. He concluded by saying that he stood by all those who aimed their guns at the Zionist entity.

MORE INFORMATIVE about details was Abu Bakr, when he was interviewed and closely questioned by an *Al-Anba* correspondent in Kuwait, who understandably preferred not to give his name. His questions, however, were sharp and revealing, and so were the answers - especially when we recall that Abu Nidal has now replaced President Mubarak and King Hussein as Arafat's ally.

Al-Anba's first question was not only interesting, but intriguing in what it said as an aside. This was the question:

"The world agrees that you are terrorists. What is your philosophy about terrorism?" (And now comes the intriguing bit.) "Having returned to the arena in a new guise, how will you face this new world consensus, since you surprised everyone by your presence alongside a Palestinian delegation with which you differ on so many issues?"

Abu Bakr's reply was frank: "We are and we remain an inseparable part of the Palestinian revolutionary process. Our position towards terrorism is identical with that of Palestine-Arab people... We regard terrorism as the main crime which imperialism converted into an industry. We discriminate between criminal terrorism and revolutionary violence. Revolutionary violence and armed struggle are legitimate

Jon Kimche argues that, despite media reports to the contrary, the recent Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers has destroyed any future PLO role in Middle East peace talks because of PLO leader Yasser Arafat's submission to the extremism of Abu Nidal.



ABUNIDAL, YASSER ARAFAT

(Reuter, Camera Press)



methods, which we did not invent. We draw a clear line between violence and terrorism. We never confuse the two."

Then came a most important question and answer, which may well colour the response of many governments to the PLO in the light of the evident covert attachment - since Algiers - of the Fatah Revolutionary Council, alias Abu Nidal, to the official PLO. This was *Al-Anba's* question:

"We have been told that the Revolutionary Council [i.e., Abu Nidal] has given a firm undertaking not to carry out military operations outside the occupied territories. Is this your view?"

Abu Bakr's reply showed clearly that no such undertaking had been given or would fit into the Abu Nidal philosophy: "On the contrary, Abu Nidal's operations would of necessity be world-wide and the PLO leadership was fully conversant with this position with which it had allied

itself. Abu Bakr put it this way:

"We understand that there are strong links between world Zionism and imperialism which are reflected in the relationship between U.S. imperialism and the Zionist movement. Therefore we have to treat this entity as a unit together with all its connections."

"We say firmly that this entity of imperialism and Zionism is sustained by world-wide channels of support, and constitutes a threat to Palestinian existence. As such, we have to destroy it and to do so we have to sever and destroy the channels that feed it, starting with the U.S., the world-wide Zionist movement and the dens which inject this entity with its daily sustenance."

In short, the objective is not confined to the occupied territories, the armed struggle and violence has to be world-wide.

And Abu Bakr concluded with a categorical statement that underlines this intent.

"We shall soon provide tangible evidence that we regard our enemy as a single network stretching from the occupied Palestinian territory to the farthest den of evil in the world."

None of the hundreds of media correspondents in Algiers reported Abu Nidal's appearance and its implications, which have totally transformed the future assessment of the PLO's role as a factor for peace or war. Nor did they report that it was Abu Nidal's insistence that brought about the inclusion of Mohammed Abbas, the commander of the Achille Lauro hijack, in the new PLO Executive, after the media had reported that Arafat had refused to have him on it. Arafat himself finally reported April 26 that Abbas had been included in the PLO Executive.

WE NOW COME to the third significant aspect of the conference: Arafat's personal role in the destruction of the PLO as a potential political factor in a Palestine-Arab settlement. As we shall see, he willingly

submitted at every stage to Abu Nidal's extremism.

What is more, in the light of Abu Nidal's own statements, we have to ask ourselves whether this is an altogether new phenomenon or whether, in fact, Abu Nidal has all along been Arafat's secret weapon for provoking conflict, as in Lebanon, or removing critics of Arafat's policies, such as the moderate PLO representatives, Said Hamani and Issam Sartawi.

It is an ugly thought, but it is also an ugly situation. Clearly, Arafat concluded a further understanding with Abu Nidal at Algiers; he committed himself and the PLO to a policy of terror without responsibility.

Arafat's intervention at the conference was indicative of the distance he has travelled in his association with Abu Nidal.

First, the declaratory resolutions were so tailored as to ensure the support of the radical groups and, in particular, of Abu Nidal's Fatah Revolutionary Council. There was not a single original political thought that could be considered as an opening for negotiating a settlement.

The resolutions were categorical and absolute, and called for total surrender by Israel. There was no outstretched hand even to the most determined seeker after an accommodation with the Palestinian Arabs: there was nothing for Peace Now, or New Outlook or Uri Avneri, no concession to my friend the enemy.

The PLO resolutions were designed to strengthen the hand of the most extreme groups in Israeli society. This has always been the philosophy of Habash and Abu Nidal. It was now the credo of Arafat. It made certain that there could be no settlement.

IN THE ENTIRE history of the Palestinian Arab movement for recognition there has never been a position so extreme, so negative and so provocative to Israel as at the 18th Palestine National Council. It was as if the PLO leadership feared that there might after all be a prospect of a peaceful settlement with Israel which might be to the advantage of the Palestinian Arabs, and they wanted at all costs to pre-empt any move towards peaceful co-existence. There was no loophole left in any of the resolutions. Any association with Jordan or Egypt and even with Syria was foreclosed.

This was no accident. The open re-entry of Sabri al-Banna, Abu Nidal, on the scene undermined this. His relationship with Arafat at their meeting in Algiers can be gauged by the outcome: total acceptance by Arafat of his terms. These ought not to be under-estimated or misread. Abu Nidal wants a Wagnerian *Gottterdammerung* in which the Palestinians bring down Israel and the neighbouring Arab states - and themselves - in a crescendo of disaster. He had clearly sold the idea to Arafat, whose closing speech on April 26 was true to that familiar style which the Western world had thought it would never again hear after 1945. But all the old ghosts were coming back in the wake of Arafat's closing words at the conference.

The undertone of near-hysteria was there from his first words... "I tell our martyred people that our pledge remains constant and our oath is repeated: 'Together, on to Palestine, to Jerusalem, to Jerusalem, to Jerusalem.'"

"We are not warmongers; we are calling for a just and lasting peace which takes account of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, in-

cluding its right to return to its land, to self-determination and to the establishment of its independent Palestinian state on its national Palestinian soil, with Jerusalem as its capital - Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Jerusalem..."

"This Arab nation was created to stay and this Arab land will continue to speak Arabic; our forebears' bones were buried there and our children's bones will be buried there. This land, including Jerusalem - headed by Jerusalem - will remain Arab, Arab, Arab..."

And then, clearly with an eye seeking Abu Nidal's approval, he came to his closing peroration:

"We are now the will of the Arab nation in our occupied land; fire and destruction on the occupiers until we regain Palestine and until the Palestine flag is raised and we build the Palestine state on these Palestinian territories, on Palestine national soil. Together and side by side until victory."

IT WAS HARDLY the stuff on which dialogue, let alone negotiations, could be based. It was a declaration of war if ever there was one. It was also a notification to all concerned that so long as this Arafat-Abu Nidal Palestinian leadership coalition remains, it will obstruct and negate any move towards peace, however tentative. Its sole hope of success is to draw its supporters and sympathizers into confrontation and conflict, to embroil the Arab states and the Soviet Union, Iran and India, the European Community and the U.S. in the cauldron of Palestinian radicalism. If there is even a flicker of progress anywhere it will be snuffed out.

Even on the issue of an international conference, with all the dubious pretensions that surround the project, the PNC had to go on record in the person of Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad), deputy to Arafat as commander-in-chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Forces, with a call "to abort this reactionary Zionist imperialist scheme against the Palestinian people."

Wazir made his denunciation of a proposed conference in a formal statement May 5 to Libyan Television, made on behalf of the PLO Executive.

Arafat had earlier supported calling such a conference, provided the precondition was met that all the PLO demands on Israel be granted - only there would be no Israel left to make the concession.

It was with this mixture of violence, hostility and self-contradiction that the Palestine National Council concluded, amidst scenes of joyous celebration and acclaim from the world media for Arafat's triumph and the reuniting of the Palestinians under his leadership.

The wise and experienced Elias Freij, Arab mayor of Bethlehem, said simply: "It is a tragedy" and the spokesman for the Gaza Arabs, the former mayor as-Shawwa, said no less pointedly, "They are a joke."

"Tragedy or joke, the Palestinians will have to pay the price so long as the Western governments and the Western media continue to tolerate and commend displays such as that in Algiers without a word of serious criticism."

However, the last word will have to come from the Palestinians. This is their leadership. Other people manage to change their leaders for good or bad. For the Palestinians, it could be only for their good.

The Middle East page is edited by Yehuda Liani.

Summer reading - any 3 for only NIS 25.

Buoyant Boyd back for Boston

The R.

Towards the two million mark

As opposed to last year, the number of incoming tourists is rising in 1987 and Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir expects it to continue to do so during the country's 40th anniversary next year. Greer Fay Cashman reports.

HAD THE October 1985 hijacking of the Achille Lauro never taken place, Israel might have attained that elusive goal of two million tourists in 1986. But the upward trend of 1985 was reversed last year and plunged the tourism industry into gloom.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan didn't help the situation when he advised his fellow citizens to stay home. But it was only a matter of time before the Americans got itchy feet again and raised the industry in Europe and the Middle East back onto the road to recovery.

Current projections see incoming tourism statistics for 1987 even surpassing those of 1985 - and 1988 projections look even better. Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir confidently predicts that Israel will get closer to the two-million mark next year than ever before.

"I'd like to see two million tourists here during Israel's 40th anniversary year," he says. "But if we don't get two million tourists next year, we will definitely get them at some period during the next five years."

Tourism continues to be the Cinderella of Israel's economic planning, according to Sharir. But he insists that it is the bridge to the country's economic independence. More tourists mean more foreign currency, he states emphatically. No one denies that logic, but tourism, nonetheless, remains low on the list of government priorities, he says.

Sharir and his director-general, Rafi Farber, have meanwhile been flitting around the world on goodwill missions to foster more interest in the country as a tourist destination.

While he has come under a lot of criticism for his numerous absences abroad, the personal contacts the minister makes with his counterparts abroad - leaders in foreign tourist industries and community leaders such as Dr. Manfred Rommel, the mayor of Stuttgart - seem to be paying off.

Sharir talked tourism when he met Rommel in Germany, and the same subject remained the subject of the conversation when Rommel called on Sharir during his recent visit here.

It is no accident that Stuttgart will be the first of 40 German towns and cities to host an "Israel week" in February next year with the aim of increasing German tourism to Israel. Rommel's plans for the event bolster Sharir's contention that tourism is the bridge to economic independence.

Rommel plans holding an economic congress within the framework of the Israel week to provide incentives not only for tourism per se, but for more bilateral trade and German investments here. While acknowledging the importance of presenting Israeli folklore to potential tourists, Rommel doesn't lose sight of the need to encourage bilateral commerce through the same promotion vehicle.

On a purely tourist level, he tells his people, "You should go to Israel at least once in your life and see that all those places exist not only in the Bible..."

IT IS UNDENIABLE of course, that the Bible, more than any other

source, has inspired tourism to Israel. Sharir says that 80 per cent of the tourists who choose Israel as a resort destination take time to explore biblical sites.

"That's what makes Israel a one-of-a-kind tourist attraction," the minister boasts. "No other country can compete with us on holy sites. That and our modern resort facilities means that tourists who come here get a two-for-the-price-of-one bargain."

There are many tourists who do not agree that they're getting any kind of "bargain" here and, in fact, complain that everything is too expensive. Sharir does not deny that this may be true with respect to the foreign individual tourist, but declares that for group tours, Israel is an absolute bargain.

Apparently ignoring the fact that for most people the money factor does count, Sharir says that it is wrong to think about price all the time.

"What I'm concerned about is the quality of the package. Israel has to become the best. We have to give the best service, we have to construct the best hotels and we have to prepare the best infrastructure..." Over the past few years, he says, "there has been a big improvement, but we have to strive for more."

Part of that striving is reflected in the Distinguished and Outstanding Promoter of Tourism awards. Tourism is a labour-intensive industry, notes Sharir, so competition and recognition for effort are important in upgrading the quality of the product. The presentations at the annual awards ceremony have become a status symbol. Any major tourist enterprise which doesn't make the grade turns itself inside out the following year to prove its worth, Sharir asserts.

For the 40th anniversary year, the Tourism Ministry is mounting intensive promotion campaigns in Europe and the U.S. in addition to the regular promotional efforts. In the U.S. in particular, the ministry's representatives are leaving no stone unturned in their determination to mobilize the Jewish community to travel to Israel.

It has always bothered Sharir that less than 20 per cent of America's Jews have taken the trouble to see Israel for themselves. Gratiated though he is by the masses of non-Jews who come on pilgrimage tours to Israel, he is concerned by the disproportionate balance between Jewish and non-Jewish visitors.

A special \$1,300,000 budget has been set aside for additional promotion next year among Jewish communities scattered throughout America. Moreover, an Israel Festival - planned for New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Miami, Chicago and Los Angeles, (in conjunction with the Israel Export Institute) - is meant to attract all strata of American society, not just Jews. The festival will include fashion shows, Israeli entertainers, food displays and tourist workshops.

Sharir is absolutely convinced that the message will get across. "We have the product, we have the people," he says, and "we can be the best."

HIS BUSINESS card lists the Ministry of Tourism's Reuven Harly ("Roby" to his friends) as "Director of Tourist Welcoming Services."

The title may evoke images of a never-ending bed of roses and streams of red carpets, but Harly's job is anything but glamorous. Like so many department directors in the Ministry of Tourism, he is also his own chief cook and bottle-washer. Despite the scope of his responsibilities, Harly doesn't have a secretary and he has to answer the phone himself, check lists, stuff envelopes - in short, take care of all clerical duties as well as those of an executive nature.

In a nutshell, his job is to make the tourists feel welcome. This is accomplished via posters at the airport, home hospitality programmes, improvement of services and general elimination of confusion.

Lately, Harly has been snowed under by the paperwork for today's ceremony at Beit Hanassi, where 145 tourist enterprises will be awarded certificates naming them as Distinguished, Outstanding and

Recognized Promoters of Tourism.

This year, cruise lines have for the first time been included in the contest. "They're part of the business," says Harly, "so why shouldn't they be included?" The statement provokes the question: "So why not airline companies?" The answer? That it's too complex and too difficult to get international air-carriers flights here and elsewhere to calculate exactly how much they spend promoting Israel.

ENTERPRISES which are in the picture are hotels in all categories, travel agents, touring companies (bus and car), car-rental companies, recommended tourist stores, restaurants and boat companies.

Usually, there are 12 enterprises selected in the Distinguished Promoter of Tourism category, but this year there was a tied score on two companies, so the number was increased to 13. Outstanding Promoters of Tourism are limited to 48, and there is no limit to the number of Recognized Promoters.

ALTHOUGH there were people - mainly from the U.S. - who cancelled their participation in various international conventions and exhibitions which took place here last year, all events in these categories took place as scheduled, says Dani Shalal, director of the International Conventions Division of the Ministry of Tourism.

There isn't much difference between the number of conventions this year and last, he says, but the participation has been significantly higher. This month's Sixth World Symposium on Cardiac Pacing attracted over 2,500 participants from abroad. Between now and the end of 1989, Shalal says, there will be several conventions with hundreds of participants, some with thousands.

The 16th Congress of the International Society of Chemotherapy, for example, which is being organized by Kenes, the largest of the local convention organizers, anticipates an attendance of 6,000 participants from all over the world. The con-

gress is scheduled for September 1989 and will be held in Jerusalem.

In the actual number of conventions, Kenes has roughly a 30 per cent share of the market.

Altogether, there are less than a score of convention organizers operating locally on a regular basis. Following behind Kenes are Unitours, Pelotours, Ortra and International.

Most international congresses are planned five years in advance. Thus, the outbreak of the war in Lebanon in 1982 deterred many decision-makers from considering Israel as a 1987 venue. Kenes is expecting to do much better next year. Contracts have already been signed for 27 conventions and a further 27 are still pending; 1989 looks even brighter, with 34 conventions already scheduled.

ASIDE from convention organizers, congresses are promoted by individual organizers - namely, local professional groups hoping to attract colleagues from abroad - hotels with convention facilities, municipal tourist offices, El Al and the Ministry of Tourism. They operate individually and together.

The Ministry of Tourism publishes and distributes promotional material such as image brochures, slide presentations, a 60-mm. film and a comprehensive list of congress facilities.

Israel is currently trying to attract national as well as international congresses and seminars, says Shalal. The reason that the former have become a prime target is because they don't necessarily involve long-term planning.

Red carpet treatment

Greer Fay Cashman

The different categories are required to have minimum annual incomes ranging from \$200,000 to \$350,000. All the participating enterprises in the contest are required to fill in a questionnaire, and details must be verified by a certified public accountant. They have to state their income, the increase in income over that of the previous year, and their investment in marketing and publicity abroad.

Hotels are also required to state how much of their income was earned from foreign and how much

from domestic tourists. Other important items of information are average income per room and the increase in the number of room-night occupancies compared to the previous year.

Bus companies have to list average income per regular bus and per mini-bus, the number of branches they have throughout the country, their tour schedules and the number of garages they have at their disposal.

In the case of recommended stores, at least half of the merchandise sold must be locally manufactured.

FROM THE Licensing Authority, which checks them, the questionnaires go to a 17-member public committee appointed by Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir. Headed by Reuven Vitali, president of the Vitalgo import export company, the committee evaluates each and every enterprise on its individual merits.

Today, Harly will be able to temporarily wipe the sweat from his brow, and instead of pushing a pen,

he'll be pumping hands and exchanging greetings. But tomorrow it's back to the grind.

The Egyptian-born tourist welcomer will next year celebrate his 20th anniversary with the Ministry of Tourism. He has been deputy-director for Israeli tourism for the southern states of the U.S., working out of Atlanta, Georgia and director of the Israel Government Tourist Office in Italy.

Now, his immediate challenge - together with the Israel Hotels Association and the Israel Tour Operators Association - is to see how service can be improved. One of the biggest complaints of the tourists here, he says, is lack of courtesy.

"We have lots of highly professional people working in the industry, but they don't smile enough. Our big problem is projecting a friendly image."

Harly, a jovial character himself with a store of jokes that provoke a laugh a minute, might be just the man to raise that much sought-after smile.

ments in both general and trade publications. The ministry also has a special promotional fund which matches the funds dollar for dollar of any local tourist enterprise advertising abroad.

Last year the ministry was instrumental in saving the congress scene from total disaster when it brought 200 heads of organizations who scheduled congresses in Israel to see for themselves that the country was in a state of "business as usual."

On their return home, the organization heads conducted intensive mailing campaigns, were interviewed by newspapers, wrote articles themselves and made television and radio appearances in which they explained to one and all that Israel was indeed a safe place to visit.

The upshot was that the dip in congress participation was nowhere near the slump in tourism in general. While there was a 42 per cent total decline in U.S. tourism last year, the American "drop-out" rate from congresses was only 20%.

Conventional ties

Danit Landau

For Europeans, contends Shalal, it is cheaper to organize a national or regional congress in Israel than it is at home. The congress package, including the flight, costs less because Israeli five- and four-star hotels offer very significant discounts for group bookings.

"Israel's tourist image abroad is heavy," says Shalal. "It's the holy land, land of the Jews, land of the Bible, camels and desert. We have to change that image and get people to think of Israel as a young, vibrant and dynamic country with sophisticated industry, high-tech and advanced methods in agriculture. We also have to convince people that Israel is a resort destination where you can relax and have fun."

Towards that goal, the ministry is involved in a world-wide publicity campaign, which includes supple-



Minister of Tourism

Dear Citizen,

I would like to recruit you, the Israeli citizen, to the ranks of those receiving an Outstanding Promoter of Tourism certificate.

I offer my thanks to you, residents of cities, kibbutzim, and development towns who, throughout the year, meet tourists in the street and help them with information or advice. In this way, you help tourists, guests in our country, to enjoy not just the beauty of Israel, our historical treasures, holiday resorts and spas, but also to enjoy meeting friendly Israelis, making them feel welcome to this country.

Thousands of tourists come to Israel from all over the world. Let us show them that we welcome everyone who comes here, with a smile. We can be a special tourism country, to which visitors come in large numbers from everywhere, if everyone will lend a hand in building tourism by offering friendliness to tourists.

The tourist wants to get to know the Israeli. I appeal to you to invite tourists into your home for a cup of coffee and a friendly chat. It's pleasant, it makes friends - it's the Israeli way. If you are prepared to help, call the nearest office of the Ministry of Tourism.

We must all learn to answer the tourist's questions pleasantly, help him with directions, avoid littering and excess noise, help preserve tourist sites and the hotels which have been built with so much labour, and give tourists right of way. To help strengthen our economy and society, let us set a national goal for ourselves - to change this into a country that really welcomes tourists. By extending a welcoming hand to them, we can have tourists leave Israel impressed with the country's beauty - and with the certainty of having made real friends.

Avraham Sharir
Minister of Tourism



Neve Ilan Hilltop Resort

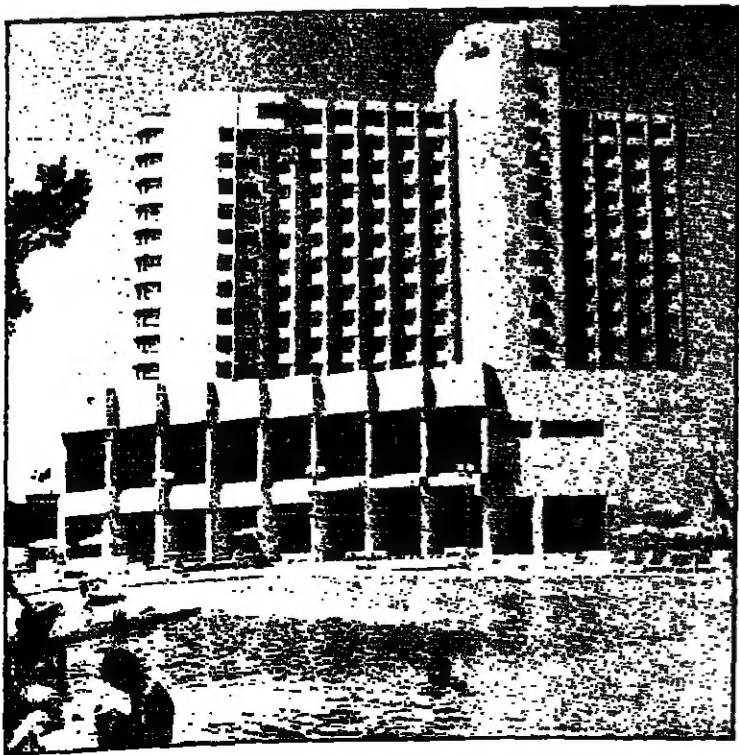
One of the Winners of the Outstanding Promoter of Tourism Award offers you comfortable accommodation - 80 rooms (carpeted and fully air-conditioned) with a lovely swimming pool, surrounded by gardens and 2 tennis courts, only 15 minutes from Jerusalem, and 45 minutes from Tel Aviv. Seminars and conferences arranged. Activity programmes for adults and children in the summer season. For details, telephone 02-341241.

THEY TAKE PLEASURE IN PLEASEING

The Moriah Plaza, Tel Aviv • The Moriah, Jerusalem • The Ramada Renaissance Hotel, Jerusalem • The Aviya Sonesta Beach Hotel, Eilat • The Ramada Continental Hotel, Tel Aviv • The Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv • The Yamit Tower, Tel Aviv • The Moriah Hotel, Eilat •

They know just what their guests appreciate in the morning. They give complimentary copies of

The Jerusalem Post.



The Ramada Renaissance Hotel, Jerusalem

THE ALTERNATIVE to competition is bureaucracy – not just in the administration but in the private sector as well. Business companies which enjoy monopoly or near-monopoly conditions behave like government departments at their worst.

One example is car importers. I blame Transport Minister Haim Corfu, a Likud politician who was supposed to liberalize Labour's state-controlled economy, at least in the sphere for which he is answerable.

In other countries you enter a showroom, choose the vehicle you want, plunk down your money and drive it away. Not so in Israel. I have just bought a car. I shall not mention what make it was because the enervating procedures I underwent are identical among all the agents.

In this respect they operate as a cartel. Neither Corfu nor any of the other responsible ministers (not Ariel Sharon, whose ministry is required to dissolve cartels, nor Moshe Nissim, the supposedly liberal finance minister) do anything about it.

I wanted to buy a certain popular make which is currently in great demand. They had none in stock. Far from apologizing – they fined me. I had to make an advance payment (not all of it refundable), because I had asked for a car that was not available.

I said I would pay for the car when the time came, but would not pay the deposit. They replied (politely) that they could in that case not book my order. "You realize," I pointed out, "that I shall go out and buy a Subaru?" "Too bad," was their (still polite) rejoinder.

Why this indifference on their part? Because they are a monopoly.

If you want their brand of car they are the only suppliers.

Why is there a monopoly? Because if there were not, there would be competition and prices would be fixed by the market. And that would leave the government out in the cold.

The government wants to do its own price-fixing. So it creates monopolies. It says that Peugeot and Citroën can be bought only from Lubinski, Renaults from Carrasso, Volkswagens and Audis from Champion Motors and so on. What prevents these monopolists from charging their own prices? Why, the government of course.

The government kids itself that it protects the consumers; in fact it victimizes them. It fixes a low mark-up for the retailer. That sometimes prolongs waiting-time for the car, as importers delay shipments in the hope of an upward adjustment in the official price list.

Does the system at least keep prices down? Not at all. The low mark-up is calculated on a basis of costs-plus, and (how many times has this been said?) costs are inordinately high owing to the absence of any kind of pressure on the monopolists to be even minimally efficient.

TO DEMONSTRATE this depressing situation, let me go on describing my purchase of the car. I had to wait until it arrived in Israel. Once upon a time, waiting was indeed necessary, because supply fell short of demand. Today there is no need to wait (except occasionally for a new model): supply is bursting at the seams. That makes no difference, in Israel you go on waiting. It is considered good for you (I shall amplify on this point later).

Seller's market

David Krivine

ment's price control of his mark-up gives him no leeway.

Very well, I will pay the customs. Wrong: I must pay the whole price of the conveyance – tax, manufacturer's charge, dealer's mark-up, the lot. "And when, pray, do I get it?"

"In 10 days' time, approximately." Approximately. After all what does the agent care? He has all my money down to the last agora, I have no hold over him. It makes no difference to him when he effects delivery.

In fact he took a fortnight (there was Shavuot in between), and he could have taken longer. Explanation of the lag: "The transporter from Tel Aviv arrived yesterday, and by some oversight your car was not on it. There will be another delivery next week." "Like hell there will," I bellowed. Intimidated by my hysterics, they drove the car up specially – looking all the same as if they were doing me a tremendous favour.

THAT DELAY OF a fortnight ("approximately") cost me money. I had to borrow cash from the bank until I had sold my old car. The loan cost me something like NIS 25 a day. When I had disposed of the old car, I had no way of travelling so needed repeatedly to take taxis (once, for example, to a symposium in Moshav Shoshana).

"All right," I go on, "can I have the white car immediately, if that is the one allocated to me?" He is really shocked this time. It has not been released from bond yet, he reminds me, and cannot be cleared until customs is paid. The importer cannot lay out the sum of tax due even for a few days because he has not got the working capital: the govern-

As I unpocketed these sums, with diminishing confidence that my new car would ever arrive, I wrote down on a piece of paper four things that I considered were outrageously wrong:

(1) The Customs Department levy their tax ahead of time, before we purchasers have received the goods. It is evidently convenient to them, and their convenience comes before ours. They are the authorities, we are only citizens. In the West, the authorities serve the public. In the East, the public serve the authorities, and Israel is in this respect still regrettably in the East.

Corfu believes in liberalism, yet leaves the system unchanged. Presumably he sees nothing wrong with it. Besides I have heard another argument from many sources: if buying a car is made easy, there will be too many vehicles on Israel's overcrowded roads.

In other words waiting is good for you. This is in fact a classic example of the Big Bureaucratic Lie. The reason why too many cars are bought is that the government, which Corfu has belonged to for the last decade, prints money year after year to cover its deficits, thus pouring purchasing-power into the hands of the public.

Most people cannot afford a new car because of the tax. That keeps the number of cars down. But no one who can afford the purchase has ever held back owing to the bureaucratic means of payment. The delay causes

him inconvenience, discomfort, irritation, expense, resentment against the government that makes a fool of him. It does not prevent him from acquiring his automobile.

(2) The importer gets paid in full a fortnight before the customer has sight or sound of the car he ordered. The only reason I can find is that the importer likes it that way. He is not pressed to reimburse the factory, he has 180 days of credit. But if he can force the customer to pay ahead of time, why shouldn't he?

(3) Why can he? Why does the customer agree to pay up sheepishly and wait, twiddling his thumbs, until the agent in his kindness consents to make delivery? Because – and this brings us back to the beginning – the importer is a monopolist.

When I told my agent that rather than pay a NIS 1,000 deposit, I would buy a Subaru, he knew I was bluffing. First of all, the Subaru agent would himself require a NIS 1,000 deposit, they are all in it together. Second, I have decided what brand of car I want and it happens not to be a Subaru. It happens to be the car that this particular agent is supplying and I cannot get it from anybody else.

So he knew I would come back to him, my tail between my legs. I would accept his terms, whatever they were. I had no option. I am not the boss, he is. The dictum that the customer is always right does not apply. In Israel's motor trade the supplier is always right.

(4) Why then, Mr. Corfu, do you not end this oligarchic situation and throw open the dealerships in cars, so that the public has a choice of suppliers? There are plenty of would-be dealers, possessed of the necessary working capital. If they

were allowed to compete all our problems would be solved.

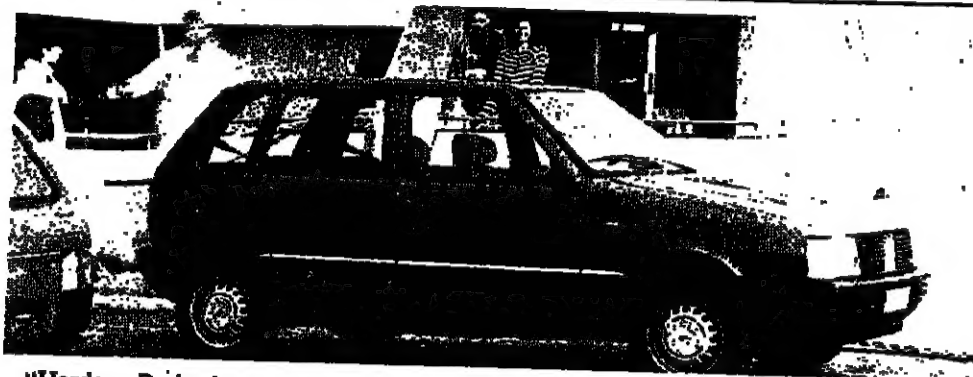
There is absolutely no reason why buying a car in Israel should be different from buying a car abroad. The argument that Israel is too small or too poor is another Big Bureaucratic Lie. Israel can accommodate adequate stocks without difficulty. The foreign manufacturers supply the necessary credit willingly. All that is required is parking-space.

There is no reason why the buyer should not pay for the car after he has examined the selection and chosen what he wants (in the colour he prefers). There is no reason why customs should not collect their tax at the moment of sale and not at some earlier date arbitrarily chosen.

There is no reason why Corfu should pay civil servants to waste their time fixing prices. The process of unfettered competition would give the customer a far better deal, both in choice of model, choice of optional components, speed of delivery, courtesy of service – and minimization of price as well.

There is no reason why the public should be tormented by the officiousness of Corfu and his myrmidons, other than the desire of the authorities – both Labour and Likud – to have their finger in every pie.

FOOTNOTE: I now have the car, but cannot find out what all the dashboard buttons are for. There is supposed to be an instruction-book in the glove-box but – surprise, surprise! – it is missing from mine. "We have run out of them," says the agent, as if it was the most natural thing in the world. "We'll let you have one when we get some." I am still waiting.



"Harder. Push down. All the way."

My companion was urging me to show my mettle and prove to myself that the Fiat Uno Selecta could indeed cruise at 160 kilometres per hour, just as the manufacturer had promised.

We were driving along a scenic autostrada near Turin, location of the headquarters of the giant Italian automobile and industrial complex. My driving was no doubt improved by the fact that I had just completed

a magnificent seven-course meal in a country inn nearby.

Although for an Israeli driver who wishes to remain within the law, the knowledge is academic, the Uno Selecta does indeed reach a speed of 160 km. per hour, albeit with the help of a slight downhill slope, or a tail wind.

Rather more to the point is that Fiat has given economy car buyers the option not only of a car in which they do not have to shift gears, but of a relatively new system, the con-

tinuously variable transmission (CVT).

The heart of the system is a steel transmission belt connecting two pulleys. The belt, a band with 300 trapezoidal blocks, allows for a constantly variable ratio between power and speed. It is like having automatic transmission with an infinite number of gears.

Whether you like CVT depends largely on what kind of a driver you are. If you are the kind of person who sits at the traffic lights, revving

FIAT UNO SELECTA

Good value as a second car

Haim Shapiro

your motor, glancing anxiously at the car next to you, wondering who is going to pull out first and fastest as the light turns to green, the Selecta probably isn't for you.

True, in the classic tradition of Italian cars, the normally silent motor gives a bit of a roar when you accelerate, but smoothness of drive seems to have taken precedence over picking up speed quickly.

On the other hand, if your daily stint involves crawling along Rehov Ibn Givrol in Tel Aviv, or Jeru-

salem's Jaffa Road, the CVT might well be the tension-reducing mechanism that averts a heart attack.

There are five gear positions: parking, reverse, neutral, drive and low, the last gear intended primarily for engine braking efficiency.

Like any automatic transmission, you simply start the car and press on the fuel pedal, but unlike many automatic transmissions, there is no "bump" indicating a gear change.

Comfort for the driver and the front passenger is considerable, especially considering that the Selecta is an economy car. Back-seat passengers, on the other hand, might feel somewhat squashed.

Ideal for commuters and, at the upper end of the economic price scale, as a second car, it would not be suitable as the sole vehicle for a

family with more than two children.

Gas consumption, according to the manufacturer, is 4.8 litres per 100 km. at 90 km. an hour, 6.5 litres per 100 km. at 120 km. an hour and 7.6 litres per 100 km. in urban conditions.

THE DRIVE from Turin to Modena takes just a few hours. But the distance from the main Fiat factory, where car bodies are stamped out of sheet metal, to that of the Ferrari plant, where one of the world's most expensive cars is lovingly created in an artisan-like atmosphere, is incalculable.

If the Fiat Uno Selecta represents the culmination of the dream of those with a moderate income to enjoy some of the benefits of a more expensive car, the Ferrari is there to

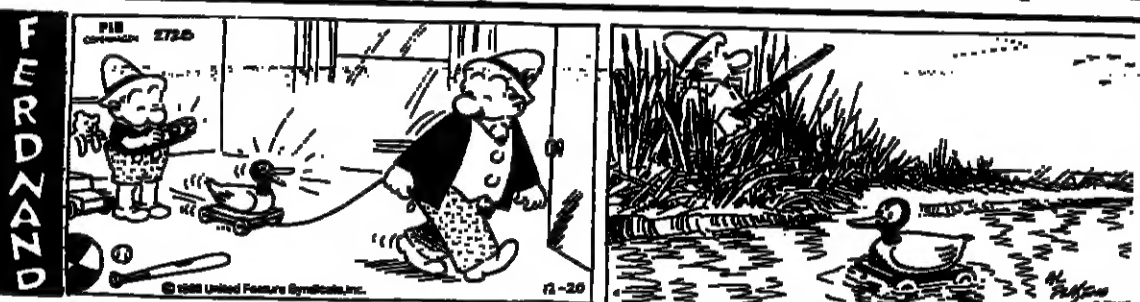
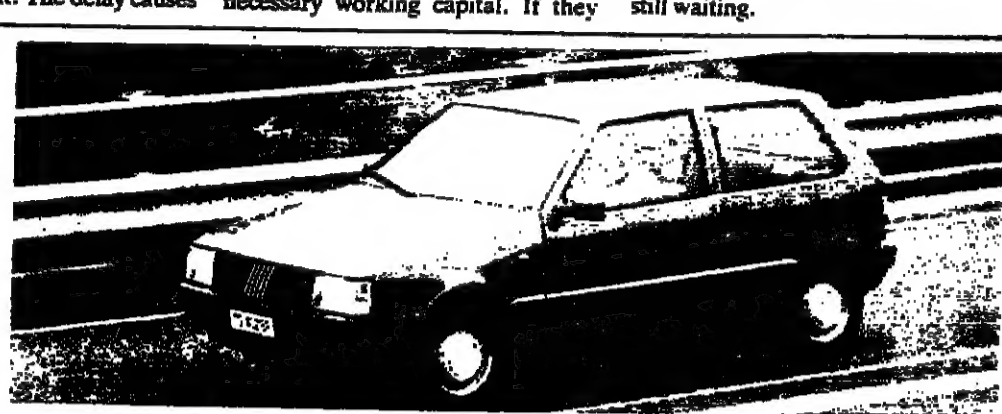
show the very wealthy that there are still a few pleasures reserved solely for them.

In contrast to moderately priced cars, the Ferrari's value doesn't even decrease over the years. Rather, it is considered a good investment.

True, it is a car that throughout its lifetime, will probably be driven for less than 100 hours at the speeds for which it is designed, but anyone seeing the sleek, low lines cannot help but be impressed.

The workers too seem to represent a special sort, somehow reminiscent of Renaissance craftsmen, whether working on the fine tooling of the engine or the custom-fitted leather interior.

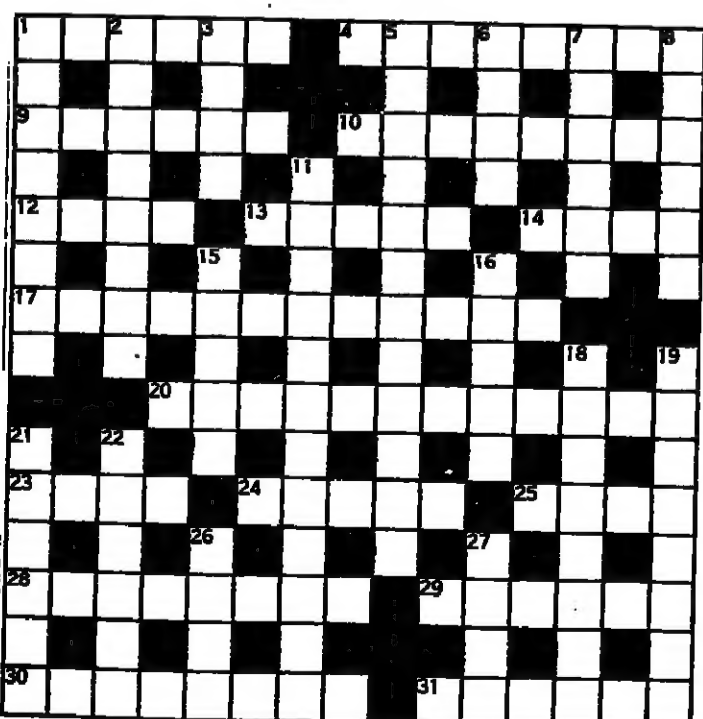
Motoring is edited by Joanna Yehiel.



CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Keep part of it as a fortified building (6)
 - Stand face to face with many on the promenade (8)
 - Stop for a break, say (6)
 - Various wet areas contain it (3-5)
 - Come down to earth (4)
 - Transport vehicle by rail (5)
 - The tower here is inclined to attract visitors (4)
 - Deceased buried without being mutually connected (12)
 - Make fewer complaints about a practical demonstration (6,6)
 - Cotton on a thin stick (4)

- DOWN**
- Padre has tea without milk and sugar? (8)
 - Might be the alcohol content (8)
 - Whip has turned on beginner (4)
 - Make amends before two o'clock (5)
 - Card game that's pointless for a bit (4)
 - Despite everything is last (5,5)
 - Dull court room (6)
 - Mention a different name (8)
 - Vote to come back after the dance (6)



Yesterday's Solution

TRACK MEASLY LOT
BARK L O C A
SOAKING LOGICAL
I E G E L O C
AIME SOLON DOWN
I E B E R P
RECOLLECTIONS B
I U T H T
X DISORIENTATED
E H O V E S
SPRY STEEP CRIP
P R E T S S Y
A D I P O S E T O P I D E
S C O P E A N A
MAREMUSIG NALLO

QUICKSOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Reign, 4 Crechs, 9 Prepare, 10 Piano, 11 Salt, 12 Cheats, 13 Ash, 14 Stem, 16 Inch, 18 Bun, 20 Emperor, 21 Shoe, 24 Stork, 25 Venison, 26 Years, 27 Steel.

DOWN: 1 Repeat, 2 Ideal, 3 Near, 5 Zeppelin, 6 Chaotic, 7 Soothe, 8 Teach, 13 America, 15 Tapioca, 17 Jersey, 18 Brave, 19 Fennel, 22 Haste, 23 Onus.

QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Urgency
 - Gets up
 - Repelling
 - Antelope
 - Swag
 - Very small
 - Boy's name
 - e.g. Jersey or Malta
 - Probable
 - Pine
 - Non-clerical
 - Musical instrument
 - Join
 - Bluish-violet quartz
- DOWN**
- Danger
 - Only
 - Dried grape
 - Established procedure
 - Confident
 - Ask for
 - Tool
 - Distasteful of rivalry
 - acknowledgement
 - Downhill skiing race
 - Poem
 - Welcome
 - Precise place

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Kiryat Moshe, 1 Kiryat Moshe, 526135; Beisam, Salah Eddin, 272315; Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108; Bar Adawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.

Tel Aviv: Arlosoroff, 76 Arlosoroff, 230748; Kupat Holim Meccabi, 7 Hash-lach, 463371, ext. 43.

Ramataim-Kfar Sarav: Hasharon, Derech Hasharon, Hod Hasharon.

Netanya: Trufit, 2 Herzl, 28656; Kraypet-Haifa: No details available.

Haifa: Hanassi, 33 Sderot Hanassi, 333312.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Bikur Holim (pediatric), Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, obstetrics, ophthalmology, E.N.T.), Hadassah Scopus (orthopedic).

Tel Aviv: Rofah (pediatrics, internal, surgery).

Netanya: Laniado

POLICE 100

Dial 100 in most parts of the country. In Tiberias dial 324444, Kiryat Shmona 4444.

FIRE 102

In emergencies dial 102. Otherwise, dial number of your local station as given in the front of the phone directory.

FLIGHTS

24 - Hours Flight Information Services: Call 03-9772484 (multi-line), Arrivals Only (Taped Message) 03-381111 (20 lines).

FIRST AID 101

Magen David Adom

In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod 51332 Jerusalem 523133
Ashkelon 23333 Kiryat Shmona 94334
Bat Yam 531111 Kiryat Shmona 922333
Beersheba 73332 Netanya 522333
Carmiel 588555 Netanya 522333
Dan Region 781111 Patah Tikva 9231111
Eilat 72333 Rehovot 451333
Hadera 322333 Rishon LeZion 94233
Haifa 512233 Safed 33333
Hazor 33333 Tel Aviv 5480111
Holon 803133 Tiberias 750111

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock. "Ezer" - Emotional First Aid, Tel. Jerusalem 22717, Tel Aviv 5481111 (children/youth 03-251113), Haifa 672222, Beersheba 416111, Netanya 35316.

Rapo-Cedra Centre (24 hours), for help call Tel Aviv, 234918, Jerusalem - 249554, and Haifa 326211.

The National Poison Control Centre at Rambam Hospital, phone (04) 523205, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information on cases of poisoning.

Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433300 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

What is happening on the West Bank?

Detailed information supplied by West Bank Data Base Project.

HOW EXPENSIVE ARE WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS?

by Aaron Dehter

An analysis of the financing of social services and government subsidies provided to new Jewish settlements in the West Bank and comparison with those in development areas within the "Green Line".

NIS 21.00

INDUSTRIALIZATION IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

by Simcha Bahiri

Describes the constraints on industrial development in these areas.

Projected publication date June 1987.

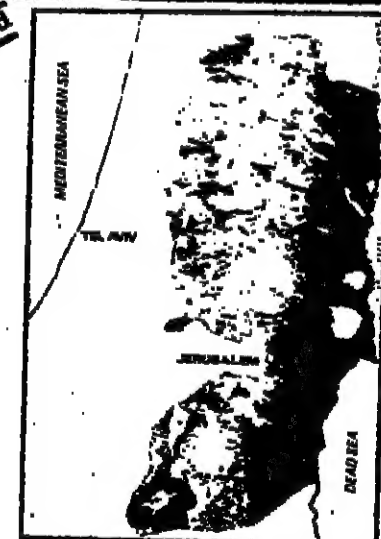
NIS 21.00

THE WEST BANK: A GENERATION AFTER

by Meron Benvenisti

A complete review of the existing conditions in the West Bank, including land use, roads, Jewish settlements and Arab construction, drawing a complete picture of the map of the West Bank, expected by 1991.

Projected publication date September 1987. NIS 39.00



PALESTINIAN PRESS IN THE WEST BANK: THE POLITICAL DIMENSION

by Dov Shinar and Danny Rubinstein

Analyses published opinions regarding political attitudes and stances of specific groups and streams of Palestinian public opinion.

Projected publication date June 1987.

NIS 21.00

AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA (1967-1987)

by David Kahan

Analyses land cultivation, labour, capital, investments, extension services and trade, and assesses the potential for development.

Projected publication date June 1987.

NIS 21.00

THE WEST BANK DATA BASE PROJECT 1987 REPORT

by Meron Benvenisti

A detailed report of demographic, social, spatial, legal, economic and political developments in the West Bank in the past year. Original maps.

Projected publication date June 1987. NIS 21.00

1986 STUDIES SERIES available for NIS 14.95 each

- JEWISH KIRYAT ARBA VERSUS ARAB HEBRON
 - THE GAZA STRIP: A SURVEY
 - JEWISH AND ARAB SETTLEMENTS IN THE TULKARM SUB-DISTRICT
 - 1986 WEST BANK DATA PROJECT REPORT
- THE WEST BANK HANDBOOK, A POLITICAL LEXICON NIS 37.50

To: THE WEST BANK DATA BASE PROJECT c/o The Jerusalem Post P.O.B. 81 Jerusalem 91000

Enclosed is my cheque for NIS _____ made out to The Jerusalem Post.

I understand that each publication will be sent to me upon publication, as specified above.

- The West Bank: A Generation After and 1987 Report for only NIS 45.00
- The entire 1987 WBDP publications series, including four studies, 1987 Report and the West Bank: A Generation After, at the pre-publication price of NIS 112.00

Please also send me the following 1986 titles available for NIS 14.95 (including air-mail)

- Jewish Kiryat Arba Versus Arab Hebron
- Jewish and Arab Settlements in the Tulkarm Sub-district

- The Gaza Strip: A Survey
- The West Bank Data Base 1986 Report
- The West Bank Handbook NIS 37.50

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Code _____
Tel. _____

WBDP

مركز بيانات الضفة الغربية

THE JERUSALEM POST

Ari Rath
Editor and Managing Director

Eli Noy General Manager
Shalom Weiss Treasurer
Avraham Levin Advertising Manager
Yosef Horn Press Manager
Ray Lewis Circulation Manager

David Landau Associate Managing Editor
David Gross Associate Managing Editor
Yakov Goren Editorial Editor
Shalom Cohen Deputy Editor
Hanna Shor Supplements Editor

Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON, who was Editor until 1933; Editor 1933-1974
LEA LURIE, Editor 1974-1975; LEA BEN DOR, EDITORIAL OFFICES AND
ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, Romema, Jerusalem P.O. Box 81
(9100) Telephone 551616, Telex 26121. Fax 551696. TEL AVIV 9 Rehov Carlsbach,
POB 20136 (6101) Telephone 294222, 288231-6 (ext lines) Fax 205528. HAIFA 16 Rehov
Nordau, Hadar Haimel, POB 4810 (31047) Telephone 645444, Fax 645446. Published
daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The
Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. The Jerusalem Post 1987.
Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval system, or any other form, is prohibited without
permission.

Sharir: tenured folly

HAD HE BEEN possessed of self-respect, and lived in a country where ministerial responsibility is the norm and not a mirage, Avraham Sharir would have notified Premier Yitzhak Shamir of his decision to step down as justice minister right after announcing, as he did on Monday, that he was reversing himself on the issue of William Nakash, and would extradite the convicted killer to France after all.

The heavy hat of Justice, it may be recalled, was thrust upon Mr. Sharir's head last July, when his Liberal party colleague Yitzhak Moda'i was forced to lay it down, and while he was himself already wearing his favourite cap of Tourism. It proved much too burdensome a combination from the very start, but Mr. Sharir has for nearly a year kept loyally soldiering on in this strange attire, intermittently protesting that he would only be too glad to yield Justice to another man.

His senior aides at Justice would probably, most of them, have applauded the changeover, for Mr. Sharir's malignant neglect of his duties in the "new" ministry quickly brought it to the verge of total demoralization.

What little time Mr. Sharir has been able to spare for Justice from Tourism, he invested mainly in the matter of Mr. Nakash. He appears to have been greatly impressed by the noisy argument of the nationalist-cum-rabbinical pro-Nakash lobby, which portrayed the fugitive from French justice as a national hero who had tried to defend his people against Arab depredations. Overruling the counsel of the attorney-general, Mr. Sharir proposed to save Mr. Nakash from the application of the extradition treaty with France.

The minister's formal reason was the palpable danger to Mr. Nakash's life in French jails.

Palpable as the danger might have been to Mr. Sharir, it did not so strike the High Court of Justice, in its ruling last March. Mr. Sharir was bidden by the court to produce better evidence than he had before if he wished to keep Mr. Nakash in the country.

At that point Mr. Sharir must have realized that he had lost the fight. To provide himself with an easy escape route, he appointed a special Justice Ministry team to probe conditions in French jails - and, in effect, undermine his own contention that they were intolerable for a man such as William Nakash.

Now that the team has submitted its report, and Mr. Sharir, basing himself on that report, has decided to extradite Mr. Nakash, he can save himself from further obloquy by doing the honourable thing, and resign, without waiting for the High court to pronounce on Mr. Nakash's challenge to his decision. It will leave him time to perambulate around the world in search of prospective tourists, and on home visits to throw mud-pies at party colleagues, and political enemies.

And, if time allows, ask himself whether such danger to Mr. Nakash as may conceivably exist is not the direct result of the lobby's, and his own, exertions on behalf of this latter-day Jewish hero.

Giveaway at the gas pump

THE SURREAL has become commonplace in the Israeli economy, but the sight of the Energy Ministry trying to hike gasoline prices only to have the Finance Ministry quash the move is still incongruous. Early in 1986 - when world oil prices were tumbling, not rising as they are now - it was Energy Minister Moshe Shahal who was chafing to get prices down as quickly as possible, while the Treasury, then under Yitzhak Moda'i's stewardship, kept them up.

A reminder is apparently needed that world oil prices are rising. As Opec ministers gather this month, the question is no longer how to avert a possible split in their ranks but how to capitalize on their success in stabilizing the oil price at around \$18 a barrel. This is still a long way from the \$28/bbl in force in November 1985, but even further from the \$8/bbl nadir that the price reached last summer.

If not in command, Opec is at least back in the picture as a force to be contended with, and the expectation is that it will vote to consolidate its higher output around the current price.

The Israeli Treasury, however, is unfazed by the new and potentially dangerous trend in the oil price. The rationale it is using to support its opposition to an increase in the price of gasoline is that the tax element already built into the price at the pump is in any case over 100 per cent of cost, and therefore a price hike is unnecessary. Furthermore, a rise in gasoline prices would feed into wage costs, since employers pay car allowances to employees, which are linked to the price of fuel.

This in addition to the direct inflationary effect of higher petrol prices, especially on public transport.

For these reasons, the Treasury believes that Israeli drivers should continue to pay much less than any of their European counterparts. There is a logical imbalance here, since the Treasury is happy to have these same drivers pay taxes of hundreds of per cent when purchasing the cars they drive, or vastly more than these cars cost in Europe. Having taxed the car purchaser to the hilt, the Treasury feels it can sell car fuel cheaply, to encourage the use of motor vehicles in a country whose road network has barely grown in the last 15 years - because of Treasury budget priorities, or lack of them.

Another illogicality in the Treasury argument is evidenced when it collaborates in raising the price of fuel to industry, which is surely no less a factor in cost inflation, on the grounds that its policy is to keep the domestic price in line with international price developments.

There is a widespread suspicion that the Treasury stand on oil prices is based on its policy of holding down potential pushers-up of the Consumer Price Index. As a short-term tactic this approach is not without merits, but when it is consistently used to thwart market forces it becomes highly dangerous. It also reeks of Aridiorist "correct economics".

What is even more worrying is the Treasury's new-found habit to force lower prices from tax revenue. Thus, the package deal that accompanied the January 13 devaluation had, on one side, a unilateral cut in National Insurance contributions to ease the employers' burden. The Treasury's formula for the ongoing public-sector wage talks is to enact a further tax reform which will effectively increase take-home pay by reducing workers' tax bills. And now the price of fuel is also to be subsidized by a munificent Treasury, by effectively reducing the tax element in its price, as the replacement cost rises in the international markets.

This, to put it mildly, is going about things the wrong way.

**DRIVE CAREFULLY
BETTER TO BE LATE
THAN THE LATE**

The pope and Waldheim

The conformists

Nathan Rotenstreich

CARDINAL Karol Wojtyla wrote a book entitled *The Acting Person*. The English edition was published in 1979, by which time the author was already Pope John Paul II.

It is appropriate to ask whether acts performed by the pontiff are consistent with the views expressed by the author of the book. An occasion like an audience at the Vatican for somebody accused of being actively involved in the atrocities of the Nazi regime calls for a reference to basic views formulated in the book - and the question whether the notion of *raison d'etat* refers also to a religious structure. If so, then the inescapable question is about the affinity between conformism and reason of state.

On page 294 of the book we find this:

"The man-person is capable not only of partaking in the life of a community, to be and to act together with others; he is also capable of participating in the very humanness of others. It is in this ability to participate in the humanness of every human being that all types of participation in a community are rooted, and it is there that it receives its personal meaning."

Earlier in the book, the author states:

"Thus we come to the conclusion that the deepest significance with respect to the real existence of morality can be grasped as man's fulfillment, whereas his allegiance to evil means in fact nonfulfillment." (p.153)

CONFORMISM cannot be a moral attitude, since the author explains: "The term conformism derives from to conform and denotes a tendency to comply with the accepted custom and to resemble others, a tendency that in itself is neutral, in many respects positive and constructive or even creative. This constructive and creative assimilation in the community is a confirmation and also a manifestation of human solidarity. But when it begins to sway toward servility, it becomes highly negative."

"It is this negative tendency that we call 'conformism.' It evidences not only an intrinsic lack of solidarity but simultaneously an attitude of evading opposition; in short, a non-involvement. If it still denotes man's assimilation with the other members of a community, it does so only in an external and superficial sense, in a

sense devoid of the personal grounds of conviction, decision, and choice.

"Thus, conformism consists primarily in an attitude of compliance or resignation, in a specific form of passivity that makes the man-person to be but the subject of what happens instead of being the actor or agent responsible for building his own attitudes and his own commitment in the community. Man then fails to accept his share in constructing the community and allows himself to be carried with and by anonymous majority." (p.289)

The author returns to the question again at a later stage.

"Situations of prevailing conformism must never be accepted as satisfactory; for when people adapt themselves to the demands of the community only superficially and when they do so only to gain some immediate advantages or to avoid trouble, the person as well as the community incur irremediable losses." (p.347)

Who then is a conformist: the prospective visitor or his prospective host? Perhaps each one in his own realm.

The writer is emeritus professor of philosophy, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Can the Jewish Agency be reconstructed?

Stephen J. Roth

THE UNEASE in the relationship between the World Zionist Organization and the "fund-raising activists" in the Diaspora which turned into open conflict at the Board of Governors meeting last February, has prompted much hard thinking as to how this relationship can endure. The February crisis was not a personal conflict; it was the product of a mutual lack of confidence in the absence of good chemistry between the two parties in the great Jewish Agency enterprise.

In Zionist circles - as manifested at last week's sessions of the Zionist General Council - three future courses were contemplated: Complete merger of the two elements in the Jewish Agency, their complete separation, or carrying on with the status quo. I feel there is a fourth option: Reconstruction of the relationship. When both sides in a partnership are dissatisfied, that is the time to re-examine basics.

The first point to be investigated is the whole purpose and philosophy of the Jewish Agency. Is the agency merely an Israeli instrument for absorption, resettlement and renewal, which can be conducted on a purely philanthropic basis (as many Zionists believe)? Or is it primarily the realization of the dream of creating a real framework for a strong and permanent relationship between Israel and the Diaspora, to ensure that the two parts of the Jewish people will never be separated? I strongly believe in the second option. A strong link between Israel and the Diaspora is badly needed and we have no other instrument to forge it.

The model which I put forward here for discussion is based on the agency's willingness to take this major historic task upon itself. On this assumption, I believe both the Israeli and Diaspora components of the present partnership ought to be extended because the present structure does not properly reflect the reality of Jewish life.

MANY fund raisers seem to feel that, through the agency as presently constituted, they have not reached the totality of Israel, but only the Zionist party activists. It is true that the model which I put forward here for discussion is based on the agency's willingness to take this major historic task upon itself. On this assumption, I believe both the Israeli and Diaspora components of the present partnership ought to be extended because the present structure does not properly reflect the reality of Jewish life.

The Communist Party newspaper said the sanctions were taken on the strength of findings by a state control body which has just concluded an investigation into the loss-making agency's activities.

The commission among other things found that Soviet artists, instead of travelling alone, went abroad with a retinue of "distant relatives and close friends" often posing as interpreters and costing the state "hundreds of thousands of roubles."

JAPANESE skiers weary of journeying to faraway slopes on crowded trains and highways will soon be able to stay in Tokyo and ski in a six-storey refrigerated building.

The "Urban Slalom" building will come complete with three lifts and nine artificial snow machines, a spokesman for the Kajima construction company says.

Temperatures throughout the building, to be built at an estimated cost of eight billion yen (\$57m.) will be kept at between zero and 5 degrees Celsius, using modern warehouse refrigerating technology, he says.

At least three Japanese companies have begun feasibility studies with Kajima to convert idle factory buildings and warehouses into urban ski slopes, the spokesman adds.

In Israel everybody may be considered a Zionist and most people take a political stand, but there is still a great deal of difference between party activists and Israelis less involved in party politics.

I would therefore like the Israeli part of the great partnership to include representatives who are non-party affiliated Israelis, representatives drawn from bodies like the Manufacturers' Association, the Histadrut, the professional organizations, the academic community, the Farmers' Association and other groups in public life. This would have the advantage of bringing people into the agency with non-political experience, to whom the fund raisers, whose background is equally non-political, could perhaps more easily relate.

A similar extension of the present ranks may be desirable on the Diaspora side as well. I have so far used the term "fund-raising activists" for the present Diaspora component of the agency, though in the U.S. these fund raisers are also community leaders. But the term "community leaders" has a different connotation outside the U.S. where local federations of the American patterns do not exist or, in any event, do not do the fund raising.

"Community leader" outside the U.S. means what in the States would probably be termed leader of a political organization. I have in mind the heads of the central representative bodies, the Board of Deputies in Britain and South Africa, Crif in France, Daia in the Argentine and so on.

The leaders of these bodies should be included in the agency. That indeed was the agency's original concept, when Chaim Weizmann conceived it in 1929. It is also appropriate today for the sake of creating a great Israel-Diaspora link and because the Jewish Agency actually has on its agenda matters such as education, Soviet Jewry, Jewish demography, with which these central bodies are also concerned. And once again, it would have the added advantage

of producing better chemistry by including in the Diaspora component people with a political bent with whom the Zionist party activists could easily find a common language.

I realize that I have simplified the structure. Matters are more complicated. First, the WZO consists not just of Israelis. It appears as such in the agency context because its functional departments are by necessity in Israel. But the WZO is an international organization and its Diaspora constituents, not just in the U.S. must find a place in the equation.

Second, the political/communal Diaspora leadership ought to be considered not only outside the U.S. but also in the American Jewish community - bodies such as the Presidents' Conference, etc. International Jewish organizations like the World Jewish Congress, the B'nai B'rith, etc. also should be included. However, it is not beyond Jewish ingenuity to find a solution for these "complications."

The question of the democratic nature of the structure will no doubt be raised. I am not too worried about this. Let the WZO decide its own election system, Crif or the Board of Deputies its own way of selecting its leaders, and the same applies to the fund-raising bodies. As long as they agree among themselves on representation, the rest can be solved.

Such a reconstruction would require not only patient negotiation but, first and foremost, willingness to give up some rights under the present arrangement. But concession is always better than conflict particularly when, in the last analysis, all want the same for the good of the Jewish people.

The author is chairman of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland and director of the Institute of Jewish Affairs in London.

Dry Bones' LETTER FROM AMERICA



READERS' LETTERS

THE STATUS OF TEACHERS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - Several months ago, I attended a private showing of oil paintings produced by one of my fellow teachers. The artist, being a good friend of a nationally known personality in Israel, was happy to accept the offer to use this famous person's apartment for housing the exhibition. During the evening, I heard the host remark that he was proud to help the artist show to the world that she was "more than just a teacher."

Just a teacher? Indeed! And what is he? Does the fact that his profession happens to bring his face before the public on a regular basis make what he does any more important than the artist's daily task of shaping young minds for the benefit of our country's future? Certainly, his remark was made in good faith and was not intended to belittle the genuine respect he holds for the teacher/artist. However, it does clearly show

one important reason why the quality of education in this country appears to be sliding downhill with ever-increasing speed.

The host's attitude is typical of the low opinion of the teaching profession held by very many people in this country.

Low-paying professions engendering little respect are not likely to attract the most qualified people. Naturally, one expects teachers to be "idealists." Yet, idealism is a quality as rare in the population as diamonds in the soil. It would be nice to have a full body of idealists working in our schools. The problem is that there just aren't enough of them to go around. Certainly, in lieu of better salaries, if teaching at least enjoyed the respect it deserves, the quality and dedication of our teachers would improve.

MELVYN MILLMAN
Jerusalem.

JEWISH LIFE IN AMERICA

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - With reference to your article of June 17 outlining the tenor of my remarks at the Plenary of the Zionist General Council, I would like to state the following:

After discussing briefly the Neusner point of view, your reporter condensed my statement so that it gives a slanted version. The full sentences are: "We know creative Jewish living is possible in America because we are living it. But Zionists

also know that without the centrality of Israel, Judaism and the quality of Jewish life and survival in the United States can wither on the vine and become a reed too frail to resist the onslaught of assimilation and intermarriage."

BERNICE S. TANNENBAUM,
Chairman,
American Section,
World Zionist Organization
Jerusalem.

HAILING A TAXI

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - Hailing a taxi here in Jerusalem requires a combination of luck, patience and aggressiveness. But why make it more difficult by the inability to ascertain from a distance whether the cab is occupied or available?

The identifying sign on top of the car is always lit; one stands by the

curb and waves, mostly frantically, then discovers that the taxi is occupied and one feels like a fool.

A simple solution would be to follow the practice in many places abroad: when the sign "Taxi" is lit up, it means the cab is available; when it is dark, it indicates that the cab is occupied. And all's well.

JACOB BREUER
Jerusalem.

United Mizrahi Bank International Division

MOVED

to 113 Allenby Rd.
Tel Aviv, 3rd floor
Telephone, telex and
Swift numbers remain
unchanged.

UNITED MIZRAHI BANK

YOUR CAR IN ISRAEL

eldan רכישת רכב

RENT-A-CAR רכישת רכב

AT YOUR SERVICE

GREAT COMPANY

Hundreds of current cars

LOW PRICES

SUPER SERVICE

Branches all over the country

BEN GURION AIRPORT 03.9721027/8

TEL AVIV 03.203366

JERUSALEM 02.699093-636183

NATANYA 053.616882

HERZLIYA 052.552692

ASHKELON 051.22784.22284

HAIFA 04.380639

ELAT 059.74027

TIBERIAS 067.92244 ext 267

BEER SHEVA 057.424922

ASHDOD 055.34177

TILL 01.7.87

Rent-A-Car

FOR TOURISTS:

FROM \$6 PER DAY

All cars new. Pick-up and delivery free.

TAMIR, Rent-A-Car

8 Kikar Ha'azmat, Netanya
Tel. 053-331651 (day) 053-25763 (night)



Galilee Tours

DAILY BUS TOURS FROM TEL AVIV AND JERUSALEM \$40-RETURN

OUR TOURS TO EGYPT BY BUS:

TOUR 201 4 days/3 nights

Tourist Class hotel with breakfast & one panoramic sightseeing tour

TOUR 202 4 days/3 nights

Tourist Class hotel with breakfast and dinner and 2 full sightseeing days in Cairo.

TOUR 203A with accommodation in Cairo in 5 star hotel.

TOUR 203 8 days/7 nights including Luxor and Awan.

Tourist Class hotel with breakfast and dinner.

4-star hotels in Luxor and Awan

TOUR 203A with accommodation in Cairo in 5 star hotel.

TEL AVIV - CAIRO FLIGHT in combination with tour.

Includes transfer from Cairo airport to hotel.

SPECIAL OFFER: BUS TRANSFER TO CAIRO one way, plus 3 nights accommodation with breakfast, Lotus Hotel (2-star).

VISA THE SAME DAY Only in Tel Aviv, subject to Consulate office hours.

TEL AVIV:

142 Hayarkon St., Tel. 03-5448191

The 341551 cu m il 42 Ben Yehuda St., Tel. 03-5448191

The 342186 GALLAT IL JERUSALEM:

3 Ben Stra St., 94181; Tel. 02-246858, 231223

Center 1, Tel. 02-283480-5

The 2057 GALIL IL TIBERIAS:

10 Heyarden St., P.O.B. 250 Tel. 06-720330, 720690, 720890

Tel. 06-720330, 720690, 720890

Cable: GALUTUR TIBERIAS